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30 October 2020

From the Principal

A special thank you to the GRC Peakhurst community for welcoming me so warmly – staff students and families. I feel very honored to be appointed as Principal from Term 4 2020. I very much look forward to leading the school and working to ensure that all students are actively engaged in the classroom and are provided the opportunities to develop as successful learners.

I have been very impressed so far with the programs and support structures that have been put in place at GRC Peakhurst to support student achievement, wellbeing, leadership and enjoyment. I am looking forward to working with various groups and watching students develop and flourish.

2020 is the end of our current 3 year school plan. We are in the process of reviewing current practices and achievements to determine key areas for focus or improvement. These will become embedded in our new 4 year school plan to be known as the school's Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) 2021-2024. To date there has been consultation with staff and students, and this term there will be the opportunity for community consultation. More information will be available for you shortly.

The school values of respect, responsibility and excellence are regularly discussed with students through assemblies, Peak Learning sessions as well as in the classroom. I encourage you all to have conversations with your children at home to reinforce these values and share what the behavior that goes along with these values looks like at home, at school and in the community.

While some COVID-19 restrictions are being eased, a reminder that students who are unwell should not attend school and if they have flu like symptoms, they should be tested for Corona Virus. Please inform the school of any positive cases or close positive contacts. We all need to continue to be mindful of health and cleanliness, including coughing and sneezing etiquette, refraining from handshaking, regular washing of hands and use of sanitizer. The school continues to have extra

cleaning and sanitizing throughout the day. Hopefully we will be able to begin including some more activities into our calendar as the restrictions ease further, particularly for Year 10 as their time at GRC Peakhurst is drawing to a close.

Ms Diane Wilson
Principal

Reporting of Infectious Diseases

Deputies' Report

Welcome to Term 4! As we head in to the final term of learning for 2020, it's a good opportunity to review our core school values as these remain a priority for each and every day. Positive Behaviour for Learning, known as PBL, is an integral part of Georges River College Peakhurst Campus where we value, **Respect, Responsibility and Excellence**. When all expectations related to these values are met, students can feel safe at school, supported at school, and place their energy on learning. There are a few key behaviours that demonstrate these values that we would like to be a focus for Term 4.

- To demonstrate the value of **Responsibility**, it is the student's responsibility to wear their full uniform to school each day. We encourage parents to ensure their child / children comply with our uniform policy. Students who take pride in their uniform also show **Respect** and pride in their school.
- To ensure students focus on their learning to **Aim for Excellence**, all students must comply with the phone policy. Mobile phones and other devices are to be turned off and away, all day. We encourage parents to support this expectation by refraining from making contact via text, messenger, social media applications or by phoning their child's mobile during the school day. Where there is a need for communication between child and parent, students and parents are reminded to do this via our school office. Speakers are not permitted at school.

- All of our school values are expectations not only for lessons but also during breaks. To demonstrate **Responsibility** in the playground, students must act safely by following all school rules and staff directions. We encourage parents to discuss how their child spends recess and lunch, while reinforcing our 'Hands-Off' rule. As a reminder to our school community, this rule is purely about maintaining safety; as such, chasing games, tackle or wrestling games, and 'play' fighting will not be tolerated, as these kind of games may accidentally cause injury to another, or cause an escalation of emotions and aggressive behaviour. As we head into the summer months and hot school days, students are reminded that any water games are also not allowed from the perspective of safety for all.

Did you know: Almost 1 in 3 teens are accessing the internet between 10pm and midnight?

We have many conversations with parents and students regarding expectations around social media and gaming. Utilising our core values of **Respect, Responsibility and Excellence** in discussions for non-school topics may also be of assistance in the home. Parents are encouraged to visit the Office of the eSafety Commissioner website to find excellent references and resources regarding these common topics. As an example, below you can see their infographic on parental controls on devices.

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/>

As students are preparing for end of year exams, whether they are during the formal exam schedule or in class assessments, a particular study routine must be developed. Parents and students are encouraged to read the **Study Skills Tip** for October below.

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR NOVEMBER – PREPARING FOR BLOCKS OF EXAMS

For many students, a block of examinations can be daunting. Some students have no idea where to start and what they should work on. The first thing to do if you have examinations approaching in the next few months is to find out what topics will be tested. Even a simple question to teachers can get you started such as 'are we being tested on the whole year's work or just this semester?' Once you know what topics will be covered, organize all of your learning materials and make sure nothing is missing and you have everything you need to review those topics. The next step is to make study notes on these topics if you haven't been doing this throughout the year (hopefully you have!). Next it is time to start learning the notes (testing yourself on them over and over) and doing practise questions to make sure you can apply your knowledge to different types of questions.

If you have a number of weeks prior to the examinations, it is a good idea to make a plan in your diary or phone or on

a whiteboard of what subjects you will study when. Try and allocate each subject once or twice each week, depending on the number of examinations you have. As always, all assessment notifications can be viewed on our school website under the Assessment Tasks tab.

<https://peakhurst-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

We have again included a number of 'Parenting Ideas' articles which provide a range of information and strategies to best support your child in the following areas:

- Strengthening Kid's Self Esteem in a Digital World
- Helping Your Child Avoid Being Cyberbullied
- Are you Asking Your Kids To Step Up?

We look forward to another successful term of learning and wish all of our students well in their final assessments!

Mr Scott Wilson
Deputy Principal
Years 7 & 8

Ms Kim Osborne
Deputy Principal
Years 9 & 10

Year 7 Student Advisor Report

Welcome to term 4, the busiest term of the year where reporting, examinations and assessments round off an extraordinary 2020. Congratulations to all year 7 students who have started the term with gusto. A gentle reminder that as we settle into the new normal there are still mandated health requirements that prevent a range of pre-planned activities from moving ahead. Keeping safe in these unprecedented times is paramount remembering the health regulations of keeping COVID safe.

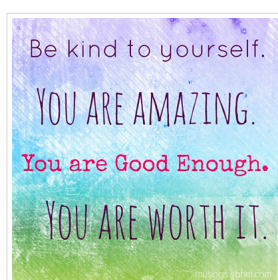
A further reminder to all year 7 students regarding the importance of using their school diaries which are required during each lesson to record homework, messages and assessment tasks. Students can also refer to their diary for bell times, school rules and policies, uniform requirements and behaviour expectations. Remember whilst studying for exams to get enough sleep and don't leave revision to the last minute. We cannot retain the required information needed 1 hour prior.

GRC is a proud uniform school. School uniforms promote school spirit. They provide students with a sense of unity and encourages unity that promotes a connected community of respectful and responsible learners. The recent cooler weather presents challenges with uniforms, however, logo fleecy jumpers and hoodies along with coloured socks and joggers are not part of our school uniform. Fleecy jumpers can be purchased at the front office and are very warm. If there are concerns regarding uniform requirements, information can be found on the school website.

GRC Peakhurst runs a Homework Centre program every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. Tuesdays from 3:00pm – 4:15pm and Wednesdays from 2:30pm – 3:45pm in our school library, which is supervised by two Teachers. I encourage all students to attend the homework centre as it provides the opportunity to complete tasks, stay ahead of your work load and discuss any questions you have with the Teacher in charge. Further details of future events will be forwarded to parents

and students as we embark on new adventures through these changing times.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.



Ms Michelle Seinor
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back Term 4!

This will be an extremely busy term for Year 8. Final examinations and assessment tasks will take place which will allow teachers to begin finalising Semester 2 reports. Students are encouraged to ensure that they organise themselves to study and revise for these tasks. This is the perfect opportunity for students to try their best to achieve great results. I look forward to reviewing these reports to see how our students have improved and developed over the last semester.

I encourage all students to take advantage of the Homework Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons to ensure their work is being completed to their highest ability. Please ensure if you are absent you catch up on any work you have missed and advise your teachers in advance if possible.

Finally, I would like to remind all students to submit their merit awards for processing, in order to gain points. Please stay tuned for further information regarding the upcoming Rewards Excursion for those students who are eligible.

If students have any concerns or questions please come and see me in the TAS staffroom.

Enjoy a productive Term 4!

Ms Giulia Testa
Year 8 Student Advisor

Year 9 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to our final term of the year!

This term will be another busy term with assessment tasks being finalised as well as students preparing for their yearly examinations in week 4 and 5. With all this happening, it is imperative that students are sticking to their routines to assist them in continuing to aim for excellence. Homework centre is still up and running on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons until week 6 which can further assist students in achieving the best results.

With the examination week just around the corner, it is important that students are completing any revision work that

has been given to them. During this time, it is also important that students are receiving a good night's sleep and eating nutritious meals to ensure they are able to stay focused while completing their exams. Students will at times have more than one exam a day, so good preparation and organisation will be important if they want to achieve the best results.

As always, students are reminded to see me in the TAS staffroom if they have any questions or concerns. I would like to wish Year 9 a productive and successful term and I look forward to reviewing each student's accomplishments during the term.

Mrs Fotini Tzoumas
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to the start of an extremely busy Term 4. Students will be hard at work completing their final assessments for their respective subjects, as well as, completing their yearly exams during Weeks 3 and 4 before commencing work experience. It is important students aim for excellence during this period of time so that they can achieve results which best reflect their ability. Students can make use of the Homework Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons to ensure their work is being completed to their highest ability. It is important that all students are catching up on work if they are absent or monitoring Google Classroom while at home.

I look forward to reviewing each of the individual reports to identify the success and improvements each student has achieved across the academic year. Upon receiving reports, it is imperative that each student takes the time to review the report with your parents and take note of the advice and feedback that teachers have offered to improve learning. These comments will allow you to make necessary changes so that you can further improve for the 2021 academic year.

We received some great news that the Year 10 Formal can go ahead as planned. It's always a fun night and a great reward for the students in what has been a difficult and unsettling year for them. It will be at Doltone House in Sylvania Waters on Wednesday, December 2. The \$120 payment will need to be finalised by Friday, November 13. If parents have any queries regarding the formal, please feel free to get in touch.

As the weather continues to heat up, I would like to remind students to wear the correct uniform. If your child is out of uniform, please write them a note explaining the individual circumstances.

If students have any concerns, they are advised to see me in the PDHPE staffroom located in the school hall. I am always available to help.

Have a productive and enjoyable Term 4!

Mr Matt Hoggett
Year 10 Student Advisor

FACULTY NEWS

HSIE

The H.S.I.E. faculty welcomes students back to school after the mid-semester break. We hope that families had a restful holiday and we look forward to the final term of learning in 2020.

Year 7: Mapping and Mountain Building

The beginning of Term 3 marked the change from History to Geography for Year 7. Before delving into a core topic on 'Landscapes and Landforms', students learnt about the basics of mapping. To assess their ability to use and apply these fundamental skills, students were challenged to create a map and answer a series of questions. Below are just a few of the fantastic map creations we received from our Year 7 cartographers.



For Term 3 and into Term 4, Year 7 has continued with their studies in Geography, learning about the formation of different landforms around the world. They had lots of fun learning about contour lines by building mountains out of Kinetic sand!



Year 9 Commerce 'Running A Business' Project

Year 9 Commerce began Term 3 with a newly-developed 'Running A Business' topic. This unit of study, written and delivered by Ms Beck and Ms Cvijetic taught students about different types of businesses, managing finances, advertising, and developing products that will appeal to their consumer base.

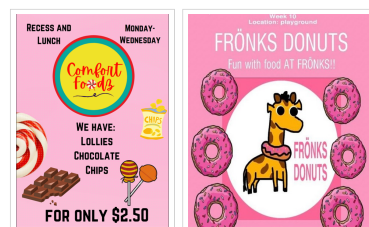
The three Commerce classes divided into 20 different small businesses and spent the last few weeks of term putting their business knowledge into action through the development of a business plan! During Week 9, groups faced a panel of teachers to obtain financial support. This 'Shark Tank' scenario allowed Ms Beck and Ms Cvijetic to assess student understanding and their ability to apply the concepts and content they had learnt earlier in the term.

Below are some examples of the advertising placed around the school to promote their businesses. In addition, also included are links to group online posts.

<https://comfortfoodz2020.wixsite.com/grcpeakhurst>

<https://www.instagram.com/fizzyhutgrc/>

<https://www.instagram.com/thesnackshackgrc/>



The culmination of this project occurred in the last week of term, with students putting their business plans into action. Each group was allocated days and breaks during Week 10 to run their business. These businesses ranged from hand-made keyrings to international lollies, pizza, drinks and manoush stalls. Student groups targeted their businesses extremely well, often being mobbed by GRC staff and students with money ready to spend!

Below are pictures of some of the small business groups prior to the customer rush!



A vote of thanks goes to the parents and carers of Year 9 Commerce students who helped this happen, staff and students at GRC Peakhurst, and the HSIE faculty for their support. Most importantly, a vote of gratitude goes to Ms Beck and Ms Cvijetic for their tireless leadership, organisation and delivery of this great project.

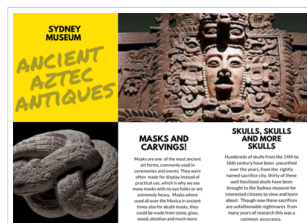
A huge congratulations also goes to Year 9 Commerce students for their hard work and commitment to this venture. Profits of their small business project, amounting to a total of over \$2000 has been donated to a charity of their choice!

Year 9 History Elective Aztec Portfolio Task

During Term 3, Year 9 History Elective progressed through a topic on 'The Aztecs: Society and Conquest'. Students were tasked with the development of a portfolio of work across a variety of content areas. Significantly, students were able to choose from a variety of activities best suited to their interests and style of learning. Such activities ranged from cooking Aztec dishes, writing poetry from the perspective of the conquered Aztecs to developing 'museum' websites and Instagram posts on the archaeological remains of the society.

Below are just a few of the fantastic pieces of work that went into individual student online portfolios.

<https://aliyahjurd9.wixsite.com/tenochtitlan>



Year 10 Geography investigates Human Wellbeing

From late in Term 2, Year 10 Geography has progressed through a core unit of study on 'Human Wellbeing'. Late in term 3, students submitted a report to assess their understanding of what human wellbeing is and how it differs between and within countries on a global, regional and local level. Included below are a couple of the excellent reports that we received from the Year 10 cohort.

Year 10 History Elective theorizes on the collapse of Easter Island

Year 10 History Elective spent much of Term 3 learning about the colonisation of the Pacific and the rise and fall of the society on Rapa Nui (Easter Island). This topic is a source of ongoing controversy between scholars, who provide different theories on the cause of the societal destruction. Year 10 students, after exploring the nature of the society, learning about the cultural practices and the creation of nearly one thousand Moai statues positioned around the island, were challenged to write a persuasive feature article about the theory they supported. Included below are a few of the outstanding examples of work submitted by the class.

Ms Hayley Diamond
Head Teacher H.S.I.E.

PDHPE

Oz-Tag Gala Day

During Week 9 – Term 3, over 140 of our students competed in an inter-school Oz Tag Gala day which was organised in conjunction with Oz-Tag NSW to replace our involvement in the St George Regional Oz-Tag Gala day. In accordance with strict safety measurements, boys and girls competed together in house teams to try and earn points for their respective houses. The day was an overwhelming success with our students actively engaged with rarely a mobile phone in sight! We look forward to presenting some of our students with Best & Fairest awards at our end of year sports presentation. Congratulations to all involved. It was a fantastic day!



Teachers VS Students competition

The annual Teachers VS Students competition is in full swing with the teachers holding a 2-1 lead in the race for the 2020 title and trophy.

Round 1 (Swimming): The students took out the annual swimming race making it 2 years on the bounce in the combined teachers VS students freestyle relay all the way back in Term 1.

Round 2 (Basketball): The teachers were dominant from the outset here getting off to a quick lead. The students rallied hard to make a slight comeback, but the experience of the old heads prevailed to take out the game (13-9). Special mention must go to the likes of Mr Maunder and Mr Smithard who were scoring points for fun that day.

Round 3 (Netball): The teachers continued on our winning way during the Netball clash which took place during Week 1 Term 4. The staff dominated in what was initially a one-sided affair from the first of 'many' whistles. The students fought back late to make the score a bit more respectable. Result (6-5)

Round 4 (Oz Tag): Term 4, Week 2. The students went into this contest slight favourites as they levelled up the competition 2 all.

Yearly Examinations

As Year 9 and 10 begin to prepare for their upcoming exams, students are encouraged to prepare thoroughly. If you miss your PDHPE exam for any reason, please ensure you bring a medical certificate to the PDHPE faculty on the first day you arrive back to school. Students are encouraged to make a revision plan, include all the subjects and areas covered in your upcoming exams. Make sure that your plan is realistic. Give yourself enough time to revise properly as well as breaks for relaxation. The revision plan needs to be flexible enough to allow for some things taking longer than expected.

Best wishes for a productive, safe and enjoyable Term 4.

Mr Aaron Morley
Relieving Head Teacher PDHPE

SRC News

Welcome back to Term 4!

It has been refreshing to see our students return to Term 4 with a positive mindset and a drive for not only their studies, but also our extra-curricular opportunities.

AusRelief Fundraiser in Support of Beirut

We ended Term 3 with great success. Mohamad G and Sami M, together with our SRC team facilitated an outstanding fundraiser in support of AusRelief and Beirut. The students ran an exceptionally organised day with a Lebanese sweet shop and drumming/music as well to create a fantastic atmosphere.

This event was held in response to a highly articulate letter delivered to our suggestion box from an anonymous member of our student body. By approximately 2.58pm on the day, we managed to just hit the incredible fundraising target of \$1000! Congratulations to the team and particularly to Mohamad and Sami for their excellent organisational skills and taking initiative in leading the project.

For more information on the valuable work that AusRelief does and the various projects they support, please visit the link below.

<https://ausrelief.org/>



Peak Learning Lessons

Four of our Year 10 members have recently created Peak Learning lessons for their student body, in order to educate their peers on current issues. Skye S, Andrei E, Brendon L and Chloe T are to be commended on taking this fantastic initiative. The lessons have been highly engaging and well received by both students and staff.

Advocate for Children and Young People – Youth Parliament

Our School Captain Brendon L is one of 80 students from across the state invited to represent our school community at this year's 'Virtual' ACYP Youth Parliament event on Thursday 29th October. His speech that he will be presenting is highly articulate, well researched and addresses a current issue facing young people as well as broader Australian society. Students have the opportunity to listen to each other's speeches and discuss prevalent issues, 'networking' with other schools via Zoom. Many parliamentarians participate on the day as well, in order to allow students an insight into these governmental proceedings and 'Question Time'. Brendon's report on the day will be provided in our final newsletter for the year.

Sustainability Project 2020

A committee of SRC members have been working on a Sustainability Grant we received as a result of a proposal submitted by the team in 2019. There have been some delays in completing this project due to Covid-19, however, the team are back on track and have attended meetings with external organisations in order to arrange filtered water stations to be installed here at school. This will allow us a more environmentally friendly and sustainable school environment, decreasing the need for disposable plastic water bottles in the hopes of eradicating them completely.

Students who are interested and passionate about the environment should speak with our Year 10 SRC members so that they can become involved in the project as well.

Upcoming Important Dates and Events:

- Year 10 2021 SRC applications due: Thursday 29th October
- Year 9 2021 SRC applications due: Tuesday 10th November
- Year 10 2021 School Captaincy Speeches: Monday 16th November
- Year 10 2021 School Captaincy Panel Interviews: Tuesday 17th November
- Peer Support Training Day: Thursday 26th November
- Year 8 2021 SRC applications due: Tuesday 1st December

- Year 7 2021 Orientation Day and Year 11 2021 Orientation Day: Tuesday 1st December

Finally, I will be on long service leave from December 1, with Ms Sanunu in the English staffroom to replace me as SRC Coordinator for the remainder of the year. Please visit us in the English staffroom to discuss any opportunities you may be interested in.

As always, please approach your SRC members (or utilise the suggestion box) for any suggestions you may have in celebrating and appreciating our school community!

Miss Osmond and the GRC Peakhurst Campus Student Representative Council 2020

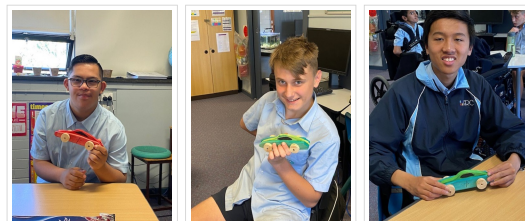
TAS

Students continue to demonstrate their fine motor skills, creativity and problem-solving capabilities in TAS.

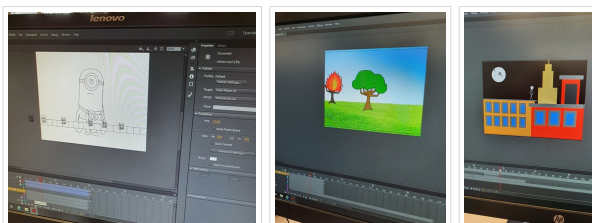
Year 8 Food Technology students are broadening their digital technology skills by building websites using MUZE to promote the cafes they have designed. Just like in the real world their websites will provide information regarding their café's location, facilities and menu items.

Like students in Year 8 Technology Mandatory the SITTRP Support Class have made wooden toy cars. They demonstrated competency in safely using a cordless drill, the drill press machine and the sander. They added colour to their cars with food dyes.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fs6UCxPOw4>



Year 10 Design and Technology experimented with resin and soon will design jewellery using the product. They have also decorated some terracotta pots to grow herbs as part of their Edible Balcony Garden unit. While Year 9 Graphics have been learning about animation.



In the last 4 weeks of this term, students in Years 7 and 8 Technology will rotate back to their Term 1 rotation in order to complete projects that had to be halted during online learning. This will ensure that all students complete the required outcomes for the year.

Rosalie Gaultieri Head Teacher TAS.

Work Experience Preparation for Year 10 students is underway. All students are expected to attend work experience in Week 7 of Term 4, **23rd November to 27th November, 2020.**

Work experience is mandatory for all Year 10 students this term, in Week 7, from 23rd November to 27th November. This could be the opportunity to explore the world of work. Some students may like to go somewhere that may potentially be a future casual, after school employer such as McDonalds, K-Mart or Coles; or others may like to explore an industry for a potential future career path after school which they may be considering such as child care, bricklaying, carpentry, engineering, animal care, entertainment, information technology or allied health, etc. The students need to find their own employer to host them. They can do this by either calling up or showing up in person to speak to the employer to ask if they can attend.

While the balance between juggling school work with casual, after school employment is a delicate situation, there are benefits to students who find themselves an after school job. Some students who work while still at school will get a definite benefit, as combining school and work can:

- enhance a student's confidence and self-esteem;
- contribute to their financial well-being;
- facilitate the development of social networks;
- allow students to gain useful knowledge and independence;
- exercise greater student responsibility and self-reliance;
- instil a work ethic and attitude; and
- enable students to develop work and organisational skills, including time management skills, etc.

All students should have received the Student Placement Record Form. If you did not receive this paperwork, go to see Ms Arfanis to get a Student Placement Record Form. The Student Placement Record Form must be signed by the student, the parent and the employer and each have a section to complete. Once fully completed ensuring a Medicare Card number is included, bring the signed paperwork, to Ms Arfanis, located in Room D0.14 for approval. The paperwork will undergo an administrative process and after a week Ms Arfanis will then give you two copies, one for student and parent to keep and one to hand to your employer on the first day of work experience.

Completed Paperwork is due Ms Arfanis latest by 6th November. Ms Arfanis is located in D block, Room D0.14

In preparation for Work Experience that is to occur, each Year 10 student should have all emailed Ms Arfanis both, resume and completed the Workplace Safety Certificate. If you have not done so, please go to the following GRC Peakhurst Careers website and complete them. They should then be emailed to Ms Arfanis (E: antonella.arfanis@det.nsw.edu.au). The GRC Peakhurst Careers website link is:

<https://www.grcpeakhurstcareers.com/>

If the student requires help in doing this, see Ms Arfanis during recess or lunch.

During these COVID-19 times, it may be a little harder than usual to source an employer to host a student for Work Experience, so please use networking with family and friends, or be proactive by going door knocking requesting the opportunity to undertake your mandatory Work Experience with that prospective host employer. Good luck to the students and I hope each of you find a host employer willing to give you a go. This opportunity will aid in developing valuable work and life skills so he/she grow and develop as people, and as valuable employees.

Join GRC Peakhurst Careers website

Year 10 students have been asked to join GRC Peakhurst Careers website at:

<https://www.grcpeakhurstcareers.com/>

Parents and students should access the GRC Peakhurst Careers Website at:

<https://grcpeakhurstcareers.com/>

This site will help prepare students for their future. For students to access information, you need to register as a GRC Peakhurst student firstly by going to *FOR STUDENTS -> STUDENT'S SECURE AREA -> LOGIN* (if you are doing this for the first time, you need to REGISTER first). Please keep these details in a safe place. YOUR EMAIL is your USERNAME and remember the PASSWORD (Use Peakhurst2210, using a capital P and no spaces, as your password, if you do not have a good memory. Write it down somewhere safe so that you can refer to it).

Student emails sent by Careers Advisor

As said, a number of emails were sent to Year 10 students, during Term 2 and 3. Please be mindful to read the careers news items regularly.

EVET applications will reopen briefly to Year 9 students in 2021

Stage 5 Externally Delivered Vocational Education and Training (EVET) courses are currently on offer to GRC, Peakhurst students, for the second consecutive year. The courses available on offer to students next year are:

- Certificate 1 in Construction at Gympie campus
- Certificate 1 in Hospitality at Loftus campus
- Certificate 1 in Construction at Randwick campus
- Certificate 1 in Automotive Vocational Preparation at Ultimo campus.

Students who choose to do one of the above courses will receive an accreditation recognised by Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF), whereby they will receive a Certificate 1 at the end of their EVET study, in 2021. These students will attend TAFE one day a week, up to 100 hours (approximately two terms). The Certificate 1 courses are fully subsidised by the government and free to the students, valued at approximately \$1,500 each. If you are interested in participating in a course related to Construction, Hospitality

or Automotive, you should speak to the Careers Adviser, Ms Arfanis, located in Room D0.14

2021 EVET for Year 10 students

Some 30 students anxiously await the outcome of their Expression of Interest to apply for Externally delivered Vocational Education and Training (EVET) courses through TAFE and private provider Registered Training Organisations, for next year.

Some students may be required to attend an interview or sit a pre-selection assessment examination. Good luck! Hopefully more news can be reported by the end of the year.

YES program are underway by TAFE NSW

The YES program is a joint partnership that GRC Peakhurst has entered into with TAFENSW, for Term 4, throughout October and November. The program is an externally delivered taster course by TAFENSW. The students participating in the taster course include:

- Holly M is wishing to undertake a taster course in Enter the World of Beauty at Gynea campus
- Zane A is wishing to undertake a taster course in Introduction to Electrical Trades at St.George campus
- Matthew G is wishing to undertake a taster course in Electrical Trades at St.George campus
- Riley N is wishing to undertake a taster course in Photography at Ultimo campus
- Giorgio D is wishing to undertake a taster course in Introduction to Plumbing at Randwick campus
- Toby P is wishing to undertake a taster course in Introduction to Carpentry at Hornsby campus
- Phillip H is wishing to undertake a taster course in Automotive (Mechanics and Body Parts) at Ultimo campus.

VETiS for Years 9 and 10 students coming in 2021

Students in Year 8 were offered the opportunity to select Vocational Education and Training courses delivered in school (VETiS). Students who choose VETiS for 2021 will undertake a Certificate 1 in Retail Services in 2021 followed by Certificate 1 in Business Services in 2022. This will provide these students with certifications for both industries as well as highly desired employability skills from employers.

White Card Training

The Construction White Card is an important course for students wishing to obtain a job in the construction industry after the HSC or for work experience. While business is usual when it comes to the course delivery extra precautions are being taken such as hand sanitising and social distancing.



Social distancing in the classroom

The last group of students undertook White Card Training on 20th August and it was a most enjoyable day, for all participants which included Zane A, Mohammed B, Max B, Adrian D, Jaafar E, Felix F, Jayden G, Matthew G, Fonua K, Alex M, Indiana M, Toby P, Daniel W and Matthew W. These students should be commended on their ability to hold their attention for a prolonged period of time and good behaviour displayed during the course.



Matthew G

If students aged 14yo + and are interested in undertaking this course, you need to inform Ms Arfanis (by google classroom stream item, email, telephone or face to face). The next two courses will run on 16th and 17th November.



White card training, in action

Barista Course

If students aged 14yo + are interested in undertaking this course, they need to inform Ms Arfanis (by google classroom stream item, email, telephone or face to face) and when feasible, dates will arranged and advised to students. To date,

externally delivered courses are on-hold due to the government imposed restrictions.

School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT) available

If YOU are in Year 10 and would like to learn more about an SBAT for 2021 and 2022, please speak to Ms Arfanis and we can seek out an appropriate host employer. Employers who are keen to take on students for an SBAT in 2021 include:

- McDonalds for Retail Services
- KFC for Retail Services
- City Beach for Retail Services
- Airport Retail Enterprises (ARE) for Hospitality (Food & Beverage)
- LEA Group or BlueFit at Hurstville Aquatic Centre or Angelo Anestis Aquatic Centre for Fitness
- Lugarno Gourmet Meats for butchery.

See Year 10 Careers Google Classroom for more SBAT and apprenticeship opportunities.

Ms Toni Arfanis
Careers Advisor

High Performing/Gifted and Talented Students - Debating and Public Speaking

The Arts Unit have ensured that the vast majority of their valuable extra-curricular student opportunities for debating and public speaking have continued for 2020, and have consistently provided updates and resources for schools. Our GRC Peakhurst staff are proud to continue to offer these opportunities for our talented and thriving students.

Year 7 & 8 Debating

Our three rounds of virtual debating have come to an end. Despite an interrupted year with Covid-19, our debaters have been able to adapt to the change of online debating and have been very successful in their recent debates. Both Year 7 & 8 debating teams have learnt so much in just a short space of time, all thanks to the tireless efforts of our Year 9 & 10 debating teams and their efforts in our after school training workshops. Our Year 7 & 8 debating teams have showcased their passion and enthusiasm for debating over the past couple of months and in turn, they have reaped the rewards. A special congratulations to our Year 7 team who were the only undefeated team in our zone, which saw them crowned as Zone Champions! Our debaters eagerly await what is in store for them next, as they progress to the semi finals of the competition.

Year 9 & 10 Debating

In Week 10 of Term 3, our Year 9 debating team went up against Chatswood High School. The topic of the debate was 'That no one should be allowed to post online comments anonymously'. Our team — Zac H, Alivia B, Chloe S and Aliyah J argued against the topic. Our three speakers spoke for an impressive nine minutes each, hitting the continuous bell. It was

a close debate, but GRC Peakhurst came through with a win in the end. The next round's topic theme is 'Politics' and we will be up against Ashfield Boys High School. Wish us luck!



On Thursday the 24th of September, the Year 10 debating team consisting of Brendon L, Chloe T, Skye S and Andrei E, debated against Merewether High. The topic of this debate was 'That we should ban all political advertising' and GRC Peakhurst argued the negative side. Through a lot of passionate rebuttal and argument, GRC Peakhurst and Merewether High provided an informative and entertaining debate. Sadly, GRC Peakhurst were narrowly defeated by Merewether High. We congratulate our debaters for their immense efforts throughout the competition and give a huge "thank you" to them for remaining strong and being outstanding role models for our junior teams. They have also developed copious debating and public speaking resources for our younger students, ensuring that our programs continue to be hugely successful and our participants are consistently aiming for excellence.



Legacy Public Speaking

As a school, we were keen to offer our own trials for the Legacy Public Speaking Competition. Eight students competed at our in-school final held in Term 3, Week 8. Students needed to prepare a five minute speech on a topic they are passionate about. They should all be commended on their wide range of engaging and well researched speeches, as well as taking up such an excellent educational opportunity. Our Year 10 adjudicators (Skye S, Brendon L, Chloe T and Andrei E) should also be acknowledged: for delivering high quality and individualised feedback on the day. This benefited all of our participants and ensures that our students continue to improve and thrive in public speaking.

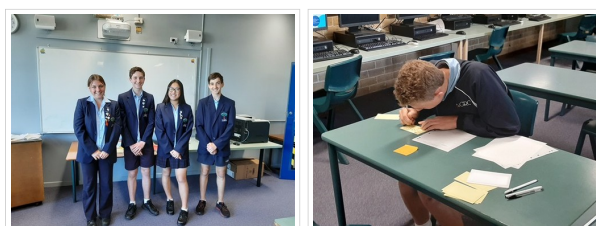
Congratulations goes to:

Mike S – 'The History and Origin of the Piano'
 Cody J – 'Does Sport Help With Our Education?'
 Zac H – 'Video Games: Destructive Hobby or Relaxing Outlet?'
 Sirine N – 'All About Our Furry Little Friends'
 Sebastian S – 'It's Time to Step Up and Take Responsibility For Our Health'
 Amelia S – 'Gender Equality'
 Caitlin J – 'Black Lives Matter in Its Australian Context'
 Elektra B – 'Behind The Tutu'

Our two finalists were Elektra B and Caitlin J, who then represented us at the local final of the competition. These two submissions were filmed and uploaded to the Arts Unit at the conclusion of Term 3 and we await their results.

Congratulations Elektra and Caitlin!

Please see below for some photos and videos of the competition.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9cIYOw5xB0>

Caitlin Legacy Speech

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhxuwK-xb8M>

Elektra Legacy Speech

Finally, more resources are available for students. Each week, The Arts Unit will schedule short video lessons in a range of areas (such as debating and public speaking) to offer students a chance to engage in extra-curricular activities. All Bites will then be available on demand to revisit as often as you like. Please visit the link below for many resources that The Arts Unit have created for students.

<https://digital.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/the-arts-unit-home/art-bites>

As always, please visit Miss Osmond, Mr Maunder or Miss Ali in the English staffroom to discuss any public speaking or debating opportunities that you may wish to pursue.

Remember that all students are welcome at our weekly debating training workshops - after school on Wednesdays in E0.08!



Miss Osmond, Mr Maunder and Miss Ali
Debating and Public Speaking Coordinators

Wellbeing Team Report

PBL

As part of the PEAK Learning (Positive Expectations and Knowledge) initiative, all students are invited to place merit cards that they have received for being respectful, responsible and aiming for excellence in a twice a term rewards draw for a gift voucher of their choice to the value of \$20. Congratulations to the following students who were successful in the Term 3 draw and have each received a \$20 gift card.

Yr 7 – Luke S / Rory M / Noah S-H / Sienna N

Yr 8 – Kiana M / Liana H-C / Beau M / Ben M

Yr 9 – Yuqing L / Alivia B / Cameron A / Alex T

Yr 10 – Eryn T/Alex T-L/ Felix F /Angelica G

Students are regularly reminded to ensure that they place any merit cards that they receive into the boxes outside the Deputy Principals offices. This will ensure they are included in the gift card draws and contribute to student merit tallies.

Semester 2 Rewards Excursion

Due to current Covid-19 guidelines and restrictions, the organisation and location for the Semester 2 Rewards Day is currently pending. Students are reminded to listen out to daily notices to stay informed.

PEAK Learning

This term, PEAK Learning has gone 'live' and we now have a PeakLearning@GRC Website. On the days that students are in classrooms for PL, they will undertake a variety of lessons and activities on social and emotional learning and positive behaviour for learning. Many of these lessons are created by GRC Peakhurst students themselves and aim to address students' concerns. PL (PEAK Learning) is an integral part of the curriculum for students here at GRC Peakhurst, which is just another reason why students need to arrive at school on time.

Parenting Ideas

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus has a subscription to 'Parenting Ideas', which includes fantastic articles and webinars on a range of important issues and topics related to parenting. In every school newsletter, I will endeavour to include some articles for you to read and some of those articles have links attached to a webinar. As we are a subscribing school, for our

parents, most of those webinars will incur no cost, so be sure to check them out!

This month, I have included 3 'Parenting Ideas' articles (see below) covering the following areas:

- Wellbeing Strategies for Parents
- Parenting In Challenging Times
- Help Kids Tap Into Their Inner Resources

Ms Julia Picone
Head Teacher Wellbeing