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6 May 2016

From the Principal

Welcome back to the start of Term 2. After a relaxing break, it is great to be back at school and looking forward to another exciting and productive term of learning at GRC Peakhurst Campus commenced for staff on Tuesday 26th April 2016 with a professional learning day. The purpose for all professional learning activities is to ensure the staff engage in meaningful activities to build capacity and enhance the learning environment for everyone within the school community. The focus for the day centred on "Visible Learning in the Classroom" and mandatory CPR training. Teachers were provided with the opportunity to explore the effectiveness of numerous classroom strategies that have a high impact on improving student learning within the classroom.

We will continue our professional development, on Thursday 5th May 2016 (between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.), by studying the various ways of implementing Formative Assessment Techniques to assist in developing student understanding and strengthening engagement within the classroom. At GRC Peakhurst Campus we continue to build a culture where all staff engages in individualised and shared professional learning to ensure the development of best practice in becoming leaders and role models in teaching and learning.

One of the many highlights in Term 1 at GRC Peakhurst Campus was the highly successful Movie Night on the Oval. This event was held in the twilight hours on Thursday 7th April 2016 between 6 and 9 pm. Students, families and members of the local community were invited to the outdoor screening of the highly acclaimed Disney Pixar Inside Out. It was a hugely successful event as the patrons relaxed under the moonlight stars in the vastly open, spacious and natural outdoor surroundings of the school oval. Patrons were treated to a magical high quality cinematic experience and enjoyed an entertaining animated movie being projected onto the external walls of our multi-purpose high-performance function centre. The focus of the movie explored a variety of human emotions in a number of scenarios. This school event was a truly innovative

experience that highlighted the combined entrepreneurial and technological wizardry of Ms Rystrand, the Creative & Performing Arts faculty and the talented group of students that designed and produced such a high quality and magical event. The entire school community supported the event and we truly appreciated the efforts of the entire team of teachers, students and parents that ensured the success of this event. This was a perfect example of teachers and students working collaboratively within a dynamic learning environment to successfully produce a masterful 21st Century event. Well done and thank you to everyone for helping make this initial idea become a successful reality!

At GRC Peakhurst Campus we continue to marvel the wonderful achievements of our students and teachers. This is best exemplified by the recent representative honours attained by several members within our school community. Omerhan Turk (Year 10) was selected to represent Australia in the U 16 Boys Oztog Trans-Tasman Championships held in New Zealand. Also, Ms Neridah Hill (Head Teacher PDHPE) achieved the honour of representing the Australian Woman Oztog team competing in the Trans-Tasman Championships held in New Zealand. David Dunn (Year 10) and Tehani Dunn (Year 9) were successful in achieving National honours to represent Australia at the 2016 World Canoe Sprints on the Sunshine Coast in May 2016. Aqeelah Toefy (Year 9) was successful in becoming the 2016 NSW Champion in Rhythmic Gymnastics and will be competing in the 2016 Australian Gymnastics Championships in June 2016. Also, under the coaching of Ms Crammond, our school Dance Team was successful in winning a place in the highly prestigious Dance Festival Series for 2016. These are examples of the vast number of highly talented people, within a cross-section of disciplines, which are part of our team at GRC Peakhurst. Everyone in our school has a talent in a particular domain. Our motto at GRC Peakhurst is to encourage everyone to work together, support each other and learn together as we all develop and grow within our dynamic learning community.

The focus throughout this term will be on the formal assessment and reporting of student learning. Student assessment is ongoing at all times in every classroom. This is an opportunity for students to successfully demonstrate their

learning and understanding. Learning and understanding is developmental and ongoing. We all continue to develop our understanding of concepts over time and at different rates. Everything at GRC Peakhurst centres on the journey of continuous improvement. I wish everyone a very enjoyable and productive term at GRC Peakhurst Campus – and always remember, if you are unsure about anything – do not hesitate to ask someone for assistance!

Terry Vallis
Principal

Deputies' Report

At Georges River College Peakhurst Campus, we consistently incorporate our school values of respect, responsibility and excellence into all areas of our school. As Term 2 unfolds, a focus on students achieving excellence by working to the best of their ability is particularly relevant with many students currently completing a number of assessment tasks and with the upcoming NAPLAN and half yearly exams.

The NAPLAN tests are conducted Australia wide over three days next week – Tuesday 10th May, Wednesday 11th May and Thursday 12th May. A catch up day for students who have been absent for a NAPLAN test is scheduled for Friday 13th May.

The NAPLAN tests are designed to assess the skills of all Australian students in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide relevant data to parent and caregivers on the achievements of students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

The following areas of **literacy** are assessed:

- Language conventions – spelling, grammar and punctuation
- Writing
- Reading

In **numeracy**, the content areas assessed are:

- Number
- Measurement, chance and data
- Space
- Algebra, function and pattern.

At a year group assembly on Wednesday 4th May, all students in Year 7 and 9 were provided with a specific timetable outlining where and when their NAPLAN Exams will be conducted here at GRC Peakhurst on Tuesday 10th May, Wednesday 11th May and Thursday 12th May. This year, Yr 7 Naplan exams will be conducted during roll call, period 1 and period 2 whilst Year 9 Naplan exams will be conducted during periods 3 and 4 on the dates specified above.

The Year 10 half yearly exam period will commence on Friday 13th May, running through until Thursday 19th May. Year 10 students have received a detailed half yearly timetable which can also be found on the schools web site. Year 10 students are reminded to return their permission slips allowing them to return home to study following their last exam on each day during the exam period.

The Year 9 half yearly exam period will commence on Tuesday 7th June running through until Thursday 9th June. Year 9 students will be provided with a detailed half yearly exam timetable shortly.

Now that the days are starting to become a little cooler, it is important that all our students continue to wear full school uniform. Full school uniform includes a GRC Peakhurst school jumper or jacket, especially for those cooler mornings / days. GRC Peakhurst Campus Uniform can be purchased new at Lowes Hurstville or Roselands. The school also has a second hand uniform shop that is run and supported by the P&C. The second hand shop is open on Wednesday mornings from 8am-9am.

Scott Wilson - Deputy Principal Years 8 and 10
Hayley Diamond – Relieving Deputy Principal Years 7 and 9

Year 7 Advisor's Report

Year 7 have settled in very well and are to be commended upon their smooth transition into high school.

Term Two – NAPLAN

All students have their NAPLAN examinations in Week Three Tuesday 10th – Thursday 12th May 2016.

Students have been preparing for it in classes and can also practise at home by accessing the NAPLAN website and completing practise paper.

It is a very busy term with assessments and half early reports which will be completed and handed to students in Week 10.

Please ensure your child is doing their best to be organised and prepared for homework, assessments tasks and examinations.

Verbal Combat- Students participated in an incursion held 6/4/16 on bullying by Brainstorm Productions.

They enjoyed the performance which discussed the issues of bullying, rumours and texting and how it affects students.

There was a discussion at the end in which students participated.

Alice Talevski
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Advisor's Report

Welcome to Term 2! There is a lot happening this term, so please ensure you are checking the school calendar which is available on the school website so that you don't miss out! Term 2 will see Year 8 students very busy with assessment tasks and exams, the upcoming School Sports Carnival which will take place on Friday the 20th May, our first Year Assembly for 2016 and a YAP (Year Advisor's Program) session on Tuesday 3rd May. During this session, Brainstorm productions will be presenting a drama performance on cyber bullying and in the next Peak article we will see some reviews on the performance from some of our own Year 8 students.

A Year 8 Assembly will be held towards the end of this term. This assembly gives us the opportunity to recognise all the good work that Year 8 students have been doing in and out of the classroom. I would like to encourage all Year 8 students to maintain a consistent and hard-working approach to their school work and continue to demonstrate the school values of respect, responsibility and excellence so that we see as many students as possible receive Principal's Awards at this assembly.

Merits

Many Year 8 students have been receiving merits of late for outstanding achievements in class, as well as for being model citizens who abide by our school values: respect, responsibility and excellence. Please encourage your child to place these merits into the boxes outside the Deputy Principal's office in A Block. They are then tallied up and points are added to each individual's point score. Students will receive the merits back once they have been tallied.

Uniform

As the weather begins to cool down, please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform each day.

Finally, if there is a welfare concern or issue that needs to be addressed, please do not hesitate to contact me. Students can locate me in the Special Education Staffroom in F-Block.

Happy learning!

Julia Picone
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Advisor's Report

Welcome back to Term 2! It is great to see that Year 9 is back refreshed and ready for work.

Term 2 Year Meeting

Our first Year meeting will be held on Friday 20th of May. It is always great to acknowledge outstanding effort/improvement and achievement. Mr Vallis and I will present Distinction Certificates to students that have been working hard on the areas mentioned above.

Half Yearly Exams

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students the best of luck for the upcoming reporting period. Parents/Guardians please encourage your child to study and complete exam preparation. In addition, please check your assessment information booklet carefully in order to complete tasks on time

Year 9 Sustainability Incursion

All students will engage in this activity. It will be a very valuable lesson to develop student skills further in area of resilience.

James Cooper
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Advisor's Report

Year 10 has settled in well into their role as leaders of the school. The students were given their half yearly exam timetable last week. Students should be organising their study timetable as these are very important exams.

Students are required to return their early leavers note to Ms Favuzzi. It needs to be signed by their guardian or parent in order for them to go home after their ex. This will allow students to go home and continue studying for their exams.

RoSA

If you have not yet returned your RoSA agreement note you are also required to return that to Mrs Favuzzi.

Uniform

Please ensure your child has the correct uniform for school, especially jumpers during the colder months. If there are any problems with purchasing the correct warm uniform, please contact us.

Attendance

It is imperative that your child attends school and is on time. Please make sure that your child has a note signed and brought back to school on the return of their absence.

Time Organisation

Students need to create a study timetable together and plan carefully when assessments are due. Please support your child, if you can, to organise some sort of study timetable.

Mentor

Year 10 have now been allocated their Mentor and should have had their first visit with them. Please use your Mentor as your support person to help you with organisation of study timetable, assessments and even some guidance if needed.

Year 10 I wish you well in your exams. Use your time wisely and effectively. If you need help or support with anything, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sophia Favuzzi
Year 10 Advisor

Careers Report

The HSC and Careers Expo 2016

Year 10 students will have the opportunity to attend one of the biggest Careers Expos offered in Australia. The excursion will take place on Thursday 2nd of June. On the day students will receive information from Universities, Tertiary Institutions and Training Colleges. Furthermore, students can engage in conversation with industry professionals to gain key insights into career areas.

Work Health and Safety White Card Training

The first training session for the White Card has been completed. A group of 10 students were successful in completing the White Card on the last day of Term 1. The White

Card is a Safety Training Permit requirement for all construction and building work (or to enter any construction site). The students that have the White Card can now engage in work experience in building and construction or related trades that take place on a construction site. For example, Plumbing, Carpentry and Electrical work. The Permit is held for life so it will be useful for students that are planning for a Career in Building and Construction and related trades. If your child is interested in gaining this credential please have them register with me for the next training day.

Coffee School, Professional Barista Training

Year 9 and Year 10 students were successful in gaining Statement of Attainment In the area of Barista, coffee preparation. This was a very fun training day held in the CBD. The students worked very hard for this credential during the 8 hour course. This qualification is great for students wishing to work in Hospitality and is one of the main requirements for part-time work in Cafes and Restaurants. Please register with me if you are interested in participating in the next training day.

Work Experience

I would like to encourage all Year 10 students to search for a Host Employer in a career interest area. Work Experience can be extremely valuable for identifying future employment pathways. In addition, it can help students to identify which subjects they will need to study in the HSC. Students should consult with me to book in placements towards the end of this term after the exam period.

James Cooper
Careers Advisor



Debating

Years 9/10 Premier's Debating Challenge

On the 29th of April, a small group of Year 9 and 10 debaters ventured to Sydney Technical High School to participate in the opening round of the Premier's Debating Challenge. The topic for the debate was that 'We should study more Australian texts in English'. Our school was asked to discuss the negative side of this complicated issue.



Each member of the team performed incredibly well, demonstrating sophisticated oral communication and critical thinking skills. Our students discussed the relationship between Australian texts, culture and education. Ultimately, our school won the debate, which is a commendable achievement against an academically selective school. Well done Peakhurst!

Erica O'Brien and Nathan Osborne – Year 10

From the Mathematics and Computing Faculty



Curriculum Newsletters

Earlier this term, the Mathematics Faculty distributed its second Curriculum Newsletter for the year outlining the topics being delivered during Term 2. Parents are encouraged to read the newsletter carefully and to familiarise themselves with upcoming topics and study tips so as to further support their children in keeping up to date with the course content being delivered during lessons.

With the half yearly exams just around the corner, parents are also encouraged to closely monitor the completion of homework and assigned tasks in preparation for assessments (as outlined in assessment booklets distributed earlier this year). Please note that all assessment task notifications will be uploaded to the school website and a push notification alert will be sent via the school app. This app (Skoolbag) can be downloaded from the Apple App Store, Google Play Store and Windows Store by searching for 'Peakhurst Campus'.

Students who continue to find the content too difficult are encouraged to attend the Homework Centre on Monday and/or Tuesday afternoons in the school library and are advised to speak with their classroom teacher as soon as possible, so that additional support can be provided.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN is fast approaching for students in Year 7 and Year 9. This year, the Numeracy component of NAPLAN will be held on Thursday 12th May 2016. Students are encouraged to practise as many NAPLAN-style questions as possible to familiarise

themselves with the style of questioning and the format of the paper.

There are many different ways to access NAPLAN-style questions through varying mediums. These are outlined below:

- Hardcopy: Excel / School Zone / Learning Express
- Online: www.exceltestzone.com.au / www.mathletics.com.au
- Tablet Apps: Numerous – Search for 'NAPLAN' and 'EXCEL'

Year 7 and Year 9 students have been and will continue to be receiving past NAPLAN papers in Roll Call and during Mathematics lessons. Your child is encouraged to attempt these papers under examination conditions and to see their class teacher regarding any questions they are having difficulty with.

ICAS Competitions

The following competitions will be offered to students this year.

The ICAS Digital Technologies (formerly Computer Skills) Competition will be held on Tuesday 17th May 2016 while the ICAS Mathematics Competition will be held on Tuesday 16th August 2016. The competition is open to all students.

While closing dates have now closed for the Digital Technologies competition, any student interested in participating in the Mathematics competition can pick up an information note and permission slip from their Mathematics or Computing teacher. It is advised that all red classes participate in this competition. The cost of entry is \$8.00. Payment will need to be made to the front office and permission slips are to be returned to the Mathematics Staffroom.

Mathletics

Mathletics is an interactive online computer resource which includes activities, support lessons and tests for the Australian curriculum (K – 12). It also provides an excellent animated mathematics dictionary as well as basic numeracy challenges against students from all over the world.

Over the past few years, the Mathematics Faculty has been utilising Mathletics and incorporating its use into teaching, homework and assessment programs. The cost of this valuable resource is \$10 per student per year. If you have not already done so this year, please arrange for your child to pay \$10 at the front office as soon as possible.

Regular use of this online tool will help students:

- Consolidate content taught during lessons.
- Revise in preparation for examinations at home.
- Receive assistance at any time, using the support button, when struggling with specific concepts.

Students who do not have access to the Internet at home may use the school library during recess and lunch or arrange a time with their class teacher to use the A7 computer lab.

Digi Ed (for Year 9 IST Students)

Later this term, on Friday 27th May, 2016 (Week 5A) as a part of the Option Topic 'Digital Media', all students from Year 9

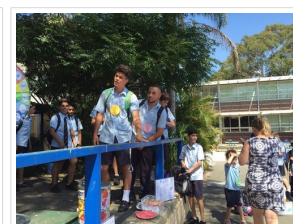
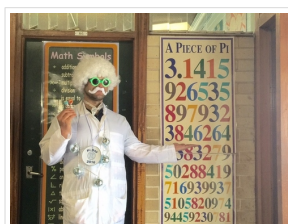
IST (Information and Software Technology) will be taking part in a Digi Ed incursion. Students will be using the stopmotion / claymation process, to storyboard, animate, edit and burn their short clip onto a DVD.

Students are excited about this incursion and have been provided with a letter outlining the necessary details. Please ensure payment is made to the Front Office and permission slips are returned to me by no later than Monday 23rd May 2016. Photos and animations will be published in a later edition of Peak.

Pi Day

On March 14 (3.14) Peakhurst recognised International Pi Day. This special date, which also coincides with Albert Einstein's birthday, was celebrated with lots of fun circle related activities, including a tug-o-war with Einstein himself. Unfortunately, Einstein's age (137 years) got the better of him and his muscles were quick to fail to the onslaught of 4 students, but not without a good fight! Congratulations to all the prize winners. Special mention needs to go to our winning Pi Recitalist, Thomas Cheah (Year 10) for reciting the irrational constant to an impressive 251 decimal places!

Year 8 Pi Approximation Day will be held early next term, on Friday 22nd July 2016. More details about this exciting whole school numeracy initiative will be made available closer to the day.



As Mrs Keir is currently on extended leave, should you have any queries or concerns regarding matters in Mathematics or Computing classes, please don't hesitate to contact me at school.

Joseph Ndaira
Head Teacher Mathematics and Computing
(Relieving)

From the PDHPE Faculty

Cross Country Carnival 2016

The PDHPE faculty were busy organising and running our annual Cross Country Carnival during the last week of Term 1. The weather on the day was sour, but the enthusiasm and energy from our students certainly made up for it. The day was an overwhelming success as students from each year group ventured over to Gannon's Park to compete.



We also had our senior students from Oatley Campus run on the morning of the carnival to select their team for the Zone Carnival. It was great to see some old familiar faces of students from Oatley, accompanied by Mr Butler. The PDHPE department would like to thank our outstanding PASS students who assisted with the carnival operations on the day. Their help allowed for the day to run smoothly and enabled it be such a success. THANK YOU!



Congratulations to the following students who received 1st place in their respective age groups on the day.

Boys	Girls
12 Years - Harrison Martin	12 Years – Casey Stanley
13 Years - Dean Skanavis	13 Years – Tia Breen
14 Years – Jayden Aneviski	14 Years – Eden Holmes
15 Years – Caleb Round	15 Years – Alexis Malizis
16 Years – Brendon Stepto	16 Years – Caitlin Hale
17 Years – Jordan Wilson - Baxter	17 Years – Monica Mcarious

The house results from the carnival are as follows:

Goodes 4th Place – 390 points
Beachley 3rd Place – 506 points
McGrath 2nd Place – 679 points.
Freeman 1st Place – A massive 843 points
(Congratulations!!)



The following points from the Cross Country will be compiled with the results from the Swimming Carnival earlier on in the year. With the Athletics carnival just around the corner in a few weeks, the house cup is still there for the taking from all 4 houses!

The Peakhurst Campus Cross Country team has now been selected and students will run at the Zone level on the 17th May at Scarborough Park, Kogarah. If your child finished within the top 10 runners for their age group, they will be required to collect a permission note from the PDHPE staffroom this week (check the sports notice board for finalised teams). Payment of \$8 dollars will also need to be made for transport to and from the venue. Finally we would like to wish all of our Zone competitors every success on the day. Goodluck!

This month, we are also fortunate enough to have some of our talented athletes representing beyond the shores of the St George Zone. This is very exciting news and as a community, we are very proud of the great things these athletes are doing.

In April, Omerhan Turk of Yr10 and Mrs Hill (Head Teacher PDHPE) represented in the Australian Oztag Teams at the Trans-Tasman Series played in Auckland New Zealand. The best players from both Australia and New Zealand competed across 19 divisions in a 5 match test series to prove who the dominant nation in Tag Football is. Australia won the series 13 divisions to New Zealand's 6.



Omerhan proudly represented Australia in the Men's Under 16's who unfortunately went down to the Kiwis. The series was drawn 2-2 before the final match which was also a draw at full time. The Kiwis were eventual winners in extra time to take out the Under 16's division.



Mrs Hill represented Australia in the Over 27's Women's Division. The competition was extremely close with Australia winning all 5 games but only by one point in each match.



Congratulations to both Omerhan Turk and Mrs Hill for representing both Australia and GRC Peakhurst so proudly!

From the 5th May- 15th May Tehani and David Dunn will be representing Australia at the World Elite & Club Sprint Outrigging Championships on the Sunshine Coast. This is the largest outrigger competition ever held on the Sunshine Coast with 35 invited countries and around 3000 competitors. David will be representing Australia in the U16's boys 500m and 1000m team whilst Tehani will be representing the U16-U19's girls 500m & 1000m team. We wish both David and Tehani the best of luck!

Later this month Aqeelah Toefy will also be representing NSW at the 2016 Australian Gymnastics Championships. Aqeelah is a dedicated gymnast who has achieved outstanding results including NSW State Champion for the past three years. We wish Aqeelah the best of luck in her upcoming tournament.

From the Special Education Faculty

Welcome to Term 2!

First of all, I'd like to formally welcome Mr Tracy to the Support Unit staff. He has been appointed as the class teacher for the Support Red Class. I know all our staff and students will make him feel most welcome.

Last term we attended camp. We all had a great time, had lots of fun and never stopped eating! A huge thanks to our LSO's and teachers who attended, from all 3 campuses. Here's what a few students had to say about the experience.....

Last term we went to camp. Costa had his birthday and we had a party and a disco to celebrate. At camp we went on the low ropes, did archery, flew on the flying fox and made damper. It was great fun. Jarrod

At the end of last term we went to camp. On the first day we went to Featherdale Wildlife Park. We saw lots of Australian animals. My favourite animal was the cuddly koala named Lou Lou. Then we went to camp for two nights. I can't wait to go next year. Maili

Last term we went to camp. My favourite activity was the flying fox. I really enjoyed. Jayson

We went to Featherdale Wildlife Park on the bus. At the park I saw a wombat, emu, lizard and a kangaroo. It was fun. Then I went home. Daniel

This week some of our Year 10 students will begin Enclave, working at Coles at Hurstville Westfield each Thursday of this term. This work program aims to maximise each student's independence and skill development in a work environment. We wish our students well and know that they will 'Aim for Excellence, Be Responsible, Be Respectful'.

The winter months are approaching fast, please remember to label all jumpers and jackets! All students should be wearing **white socks**.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Peta Holm
Head Teacher Special Education

SRC News

Welcome back to Term 2. SRC members have been busy around the school organising events for you and our school community.

Last term your SRC underwent their annual training and planning day, aimed at team building, fostering leadership skills and brainstorming our goals and events for 2016. The day was a great success and allowed the team to foster positive relationships across all year groups as they engaged in student-led sessions throughout the day. Thank you to all SRC who approached the day with such fantastic initiative, leadership and communication skills as well as fresh ideas for our school. Here are some photos of them as they worked in a range of teams. Try and guess what they are doing!!



Last term on Wednesday 4th March, 4 Year 10 students and myself attended a conference at Auburn Youth Centre. This was called **Youth Summit 2016 – Promoting Cultural Harmony and Advocacy Across all Communities in Sydney**. This conference offered our student leaders the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding on how conflicts around the world become global issues affecting local communities. Stellios Gletos, Nikhil Kumar, Erica O'Brien and Caleb Round accompanied me on the day and engaged in a range of group discussions and activities surrounding Social Media, the Arts, Incorporating Sport and Implementing Policy in terms of utilising tools to create and send out an important message for a cause. They interacted with many other students from a wide range of schools and enjoyed networking on the day as you can see here in these photos.



In Week 9 of Term 1 we also held an Easter raffle, to raise money for our Support unit here at school. SRC members ran a guessing competition and raffle across many lunch times in the lead up to the draw on assembly in Week 9. Congratulations to our winners: Shannon Henderson, Erik Attard, Hasan Faraj, Aleesha Bishop and Mr Ndaira!! Hope you enjoyed your prizes!!! Thanks also to my hardworking SRC members for running the raffle to great success.



With a busy term behind us, so begins another. Term 2 has already seen our Anzac Day ceremony on Friday 29th April display outstanding public speaking skills and overall respect displayed by the entire school. It was also tremendous to see some of our students participate in their role as Army Cadets. Thank you to the entire school for marking the occasion with such dignity and respect.

In term 2 week 3 our newly elected Year 7 representatives, our Support unit representatives as well as 2 Year 9 representatives who missed SRC induction will be officially inducted into the 2016 SRC. Parents are very welcome to attend. Congratulations to the following Year 7 students who have already been contributing to the school at our very first Movie Night and displaying fantastic leadership skills:

Cooper Appleby
Joshua Cracknell
Taya Iverach
Alexander Morson
Alexia Spinoulas
Casey Stanley

Our Movie Night featuring the film *Inside Out* was a great success and I am incredibly thankful for all of the volunteers who made the night happen. If you missed out on the first one, stay tuned for the next one because there was pizza, coffee, cake, glow sticks, gelato, BBQ, you name it. We look forward to advertising the next one and welcome your ideas for a suitable film.

We are also going to be having our first Mufti Day for the year this term and are currently in the planning stages for this. Remember to suggest your ideas to your SRC representatives in your year group!

Important upcoming dates:

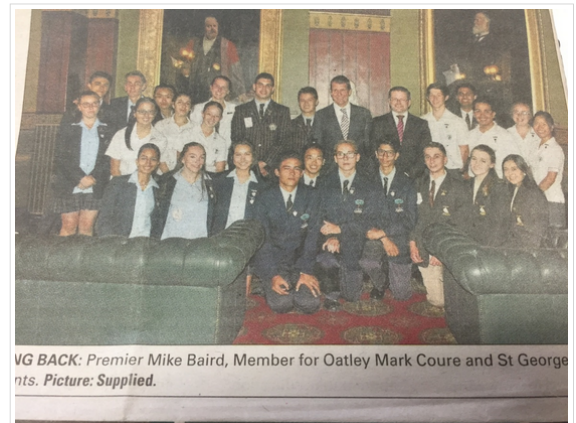
Oaktree Presentation: Tuesday 3rd May 8:40am
Year 7 Blazer fittings: Friday 6th May 8.45am.
Wellbeing Committee Meetings: Each Tuesday at

recess.

SRC Induction and Harmony Day presentation: Friday 13th May at Formal Assembly. 8.50am-9:20am.

Year 9 Altitude Day Leadership Conference – Tuesday 31st May. Year 9 SRC need to meet Miss Osmond at 8am at Mortdale station!!

Also, see if you can spot anyone you know in this recent photo from the Leader, our local **newspaper!!!**



Please feel free to bring any ideas you have for our school or for your upcoming Year Meetings to your SRC members to bring up in our meetings.

Lauren Osmond
SRC Coordinator

Student Leadership Opportunity

Secondary Schools Leadership Program

On Thursday the 17th of March, Tamara Reynolds and myself, Caleb Round, were lucky enough to attend the Secondary Schools Leadership Program. There were leadership representatives from 37 schools all over Sydney and neighbouring areas. In total, there were approximately 100 students there.

The first half of the day was held at Parliament House in Sydney where we met some politicians who represent the various areas the students were from, (including Mark Coure) and we found out what their roles are in parliament. We then got to visit the green room and the red room or the lower house and the upper house and saw some debates between Members of Parliament.

After lunch, we all walked to Government House where we toured the house and got to see most part of it. It was a very luxurious house which looked very much like Hogwarts. After that, we were spoken to by the Governor, David Hurley, and then we had a group photo. All in all, the day was a success with both Tamara and I learning many things about leadership and politics.

Tamara Reynolds and Caleb Round

From the TAS Department

We have had a very busy start to 2016 with many extra-curricular activities happening in the TAS department.

Year 9 Food Technology – Cake Decorating

Year 9 Food Technology students have set very high standards as they began the year with their cake decorating task! We already have some very talented foodies in our mix and can't wait to see what they produce in the second task – Food Art!

Take time to view some of the amazing cakes that were presented!



Our first Masterchef Winners

Term 1 saw the introduction of our very first Masterchef competition at Peakhurst High School. We had entries from Year 9 and 10 for the first round and the standard of foods produced was spectacular. It took courage and determination to be the very first students to work independently, producing a 2 course meal, with the incorporation of five given foods. I congratulate all participants that undertook the challenge and look forward to our next group of contestants next term.

Winners:

- 1st Place – Joanne Truong
- 2nd Place – Bianca Winter

Year 9 Karitane Talking Realities

Once again Year 9 girls have had the privilege of being able to watch the Karitane Talking Realities presentation. The girls found the talk very 'real' and informative. It is an invaluable experience that I am sure the girls will always remember!

Michelle Seidel
Food Technology Teacher

College PBL Meeting Monday 2nd May 2016

On Monday, 2nd May, Dimitriy Esdaile Watts, Valandou Contzonis, Andee Hardie and Matthew Sanders of Year 8 represented our school as our PBL Leaders, led by Mrs Larcombe the relieving GRC Principal at the GRC PBL Leaders Planning Workshop at GRC Penshurst. While we were there we watched presentations made by the rest of the colleges Penshurst Girls, Hurstville Boys and Oatley Senior Campus. In their presentations they showed us how PBL has changed their school positively: with ideas such as Academic and Most Improved Morning Teas, students teaching students at Year Meetings, Rewards Excursions tied to our College's core values and many more.

Our second session was led by Mrs Larcombe (the relieving College Principal). Our focus for the session was 'Where to from here?' for PBL at GRC. Some suggestions that came up was setting a good example out in the community by wearing good uniform, being polite while waiting in line for transport and maybe even helping a lady cross the road. In the meeting there was a great suggestion that when someone is having a tantrum over something like a pen or during a sporting match, we can have a small catch phrase such as 'there are worse things in life' as we try to build resilience in our peers.

We are going to have another PBL meeting with all the PBL leaders throughout the four campuses hopefully by the end of the term to discuss how we are going with all the changes to the PBL at our schools.

During the third session we focused on what a GRC graduate should look like and what we are doing to achieve this in our schools.

At GRC Peakhurst, we will take the correct steps to guide, help and teach the students the positive tools to help create and map out their future. We are standing together to be amazing role models, to set a good example of our school and for everyone to see that the present and future student graduates of GRC have respect for themselves, are optimistic, to step up when fear or doubt creeps in and challenge themselves to be the best that they can be.

We are always modelling, and students are always watching. So to achieve this goal we must: listen to the teacher's instructions, complete all necessary tasks and try to do extra curriculum activities. If you can do this, you can become the greatest person you can be and succeed at being a great adult!

**By Valandou Contzonis, Dimitriy Esdaile-Watts,
Andee Hardie and Matthew Sanders**

