



Rona Street
 Peakhurst NSW 2210
 Subscribe: <https://grcpeakhurst.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe>

Email: peakhurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
 Phone: 02 9153 9966
 Fax: 02 9534 6346



10 November 2017

From the Principal

This school term is highlighted by ongoing formal assessments and the reporting of student learning across all the key learning areas within the school. Formal assessments are seen as an opportunity for students to demonstrate their understanding of the course work explored within every classroom throughout this semester. Student learning will be mapped against course performance descriptors to determine the standard of achievement in each subject area. It is important for all students to reflect on the feedback provided to them by their respective teachers. The feedback provided to each student in each subject is designed to constructively outline ways to further improve their performance and understanding of the course work studied in the classroom. The emphasis at all times is about *'continuous and ongoing improvement'*.

As reported in the previous edition of the school newsletter, our school community was required to participate in an External Validation process that required the school to self-assess the educational systems, processes, teaching and learning programs currently used within the school against the Department of Education School Excellence Framework in the areas of Learning, Teaching and Leadership. The school leadership team worked strategically with a focus and a purpose that was compelling and challenging. The end goal at all times was about student learning and high impact improvement in all aspects of school life. Everything revolved around evidence collection and reflections on student performance data. The school leadership team was characterised by the strong positive and professional relationships that created alignment, trust and support at all times. This led to spirals of inquiry where current educational practices were questioned and further examined. The entire process proved to be highly productive and very beneficial for individual members of the school leadership team and the entire school learning community.

On Tuesday 17th October, 2017 an independent External Validation panel attended the school to conduct a review of the

school's evidence and overall findings. After careful examination and analysis of the evidence presented by our school, the panel concluded that our school was very accurate in our self-assessment and consistent with the evidence provided when mapped and validated against the DoE School Excellence Framework in all the domains of Learning, Teaching and Leadership. The feedback provided by the panel was very insightful and constructive. This process has provided an ideal framework for the school leadership team and the school learning community to reflect on how to be effective in the design of strategic initiatives to bring about school improvement in the upcoming School Plan 2018 – 2020. On behalf of our school learning community, I congratulate the entire school leadership team for their productive educational contributions, collaboration, professionalism and effective leadership throughout the entire External Validation process (May – September). A meritorious mention to Scott Wilson (DP), Christine Keir (DP), Peta Holm (HT Special Ed), Neridah Hill (HT PDHPE), Patrick Fisher (English), Aaron Morley (PDHPE), Monique Van De Pol (LaST), Nick Zouroudis (HT English) and Joanne Jarvis (GRC Principal).

Moving forward, we are currently reviewing our School Plan 2015 - 2017 and about to enter into the consultation stage with all the school stakeholders for the new School Plan 2018 - 2020. An integral part of this process involves a review of the current consultation draft of the Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020. The DoE Vision is: *'To be Australia's best education system and one of the finest in the world'*. The DoE Mission is: *'To prepare young people to lead rewarding and productive lives in a complex and dynamic world'*. In general, the goals of the DoE are to ensure students make a strong start in life and learning and make a successful transition to school. Every student is known, valued and cared for in our school. Every student, every teacher, every leader and every school improves every year. Every student is engaged and challenged to continue to learn. All young people have a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy, deep content knowledge and confidence in their ability to learn, adapt and be responsible citizens. All young people finish school well prepared for higher education, training and work. Our staff and teachers are of the highest calibre. Our school infrastructure

meets the needs of a growing population and enables future focused learning and teaching. Education is a great place to work and community confidence in Public Education is high.

In conclusion, the DoE vision statement, mission statement and goals are the foundation upon which we build for the future and at the forefront of everything we do in learning and teaching at GRC Peakhurst Campus!

Terry Vallis
Principal

Deputies' Report

With Term 4 well under way, students are currently completing ACER testing, yearly exams and final assessment tasks for the Semester 2 reporting schedule. As students work towards their final assessments, it is important that students continue to work to the best of their ability until the last day of Term 4. After assessment tasks are completed, teachers are preparing students for the 2017 school year. Parents are encouraged to ensure that their child/children attend school every day in full school uniform, complete all assigned work and continue to adhere to our school values of respect, responsibility and excellence.

Year 10 will be participating in a number of transition programs in preparation for enrolment at GRC Oatley in 2017. On Tuesday 28th November, identified Year 10 students will be involved in the Jumpstart Transition Program at Oatley Senior Campus. On Monday 4th December, all Year 10 will participate in a compulsory orientation program at the senior campus. All students are expected to arrive prior to 8:30 a.m. and be in full school uniform. The Oatley orientation is organised to assist students in understanding the processes, procedures and expectations of senior studies and allow students to meet their 2018 peers.

Lateness to school has become an issue for some students. Unfortunately, when students are late to school they are missing valuable information and learning time. We encourage parents to ensure that students leave home each morning in time to arrive at school prior to the 8:40 a.m. bell.

GRC Peakhurst has a strong uniform policy where all students are expected to wear the correct school uniform each day. Students not in correct uniform are encouraged to bring a note from a parent explaining why they are not in correct uniform. These students will be offered items of correct uniform to wear for the day to uphold our high standard of uniform. Please ensure that these items are washed and returned to the school ready to be worn by other students, if necessary. GRC Peakhurst Campus uniforms can be purchased at Lowes – Hurstville / Roselands. Alternatively, the P&C operate a small 2nd hand uniform store each Wednesday morning from 8:00 am. Parents are encouraged to donate any uniforms that are too small for their child to the P&C's uniform store. Any monies raised in the store goes back into school resources.

Students are regularly reminded at weekly assemblies that their behaviour, both within the school and within the wider community, is important and should reflect our school values of respect, responsibility and excellence. We ask parents to

talk to their children about expected behaviours when travelling to and from school on public transport and whilst waiting for public transport in the community. Poor behaviour by a few students in the community reflects negatively on the whole school community. Please encourage your child to wait quietly for public transport and act respectfully and responsibly whilst travelling to and from school.

Mr Scott Wilson **Ms Christine Keir**
Deputy Principal **Relieving Deputy Principal**

Year 7 Student Advisor Report

Term 4 will prove to be an extremely busy term for Year 7. Assessment tasks and exams for subjects will arrive thick and fast. It is important that students are constantly revising for their assessment tasks and are well prepared to achieve their best possible results. All assessment task notifications can be found on the school website.

The school diary is a great way for students to remain organised. The purpose of this diary is to aid student's organisational skills. They are expected to write all homework and assessment reminders in their diary. It can also be used as a communication tool between parents and teachers. Please ensure you check your child's diary regularly to ensure they are staying on top of their homework and assessment tasks. If students are absent on the due date of an assessment task, it is important that they submit a medical certificate to their teacher the next day they are present.

As we progress through the term the weather will start warming up. It is important that students are wearing full school uniform and are well prepared for the sun with a school hat and sun screen if necessary.

I wish all Year 7 a productive and enjoyable Term 4.

Ibrahim Haydar
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Student Advisor Report

This will be a busy term for Year 8. Final examinations and assessment tasks will take place to prepare for the 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 improve in their results.

It is important that students use their diaries and the school website to organise their time and requirements for assessment tasks and ask their teachers for help. The school homework centre will be operating on Monday and Tuesdays in the library between 3:00 - 4:00 pm until Week 7 to assist them with their homework or study.

Students are encouraged to come organised for school with all the correct equipment for each subject and in full school uniform. If they are absent, a medical certificate or note from a parent or guardian is required to explain their absence. If your child has received a letter from the school regarding an

unexplained absence, please return that letter to the school as soon as possible.

Mrs Alice Talevski
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Student Advisor Report

Yearly exams for Year 9 were held over Weeks 3 and 4 of this term. I would like to congratulate Year 9 students on their overall behaviour and the way they displayed the school values of respect, responsibility and excellence.

It has been great to watch Year 9 continue to progress throughout the year and actively engage in a variety of learning experiences. Students can now look forward to study in Year 10. It will be an exciting and challenging year of study and students should be encouraged to set goals and work towards them.

It is coming up to report time again and at this time I am eager to review the yearly reports for Year 9 students, identifying the success, improvements and excellence that students have achieved over the year. When receiving reports, I would like to encourage all students to take note of their teacher's advice. This will help guide students in areas that require improvement and assist them to achieve their personal best by developing effective learning habits in Year 10.

Finally, the countdown is on until the end of school for 2017. Year 9 students are reminded to keep attendance rates up, ensure they are in full school uniform and continue to engage in all classes and school activities. The remainder of the term will see our final Year Assembly taking place in Week 6 and the annual Rewards Excursion towards the end of the term. Year 9 students will also have the opportunity to run for SRC positions and School and Vice-Captain roles.

Happy Learning!

Julia Picone
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Student Advisor Report

It is with great pleasure that I assume the role of Year 10 advisor for the remainder of Term 4. I will try and follow on from the excellent work that Mr Holloway has completed as my predecessor. Having taught most of the cohort throughout their time at GRC Peakhurst, I feel I have built a positive rapport with the students and can offer my support and guidance through the very busy time they have left at our campus.

With only approximately 5 weeks left of the term, it is a very hectic schedule ahead of our Year 10s. Their final exams, coupled with the transition from our campus to the senior campus, or even out into the workforce, means that it is a very busy and stressful time for our students as they sail into the uncharted waters ahead.

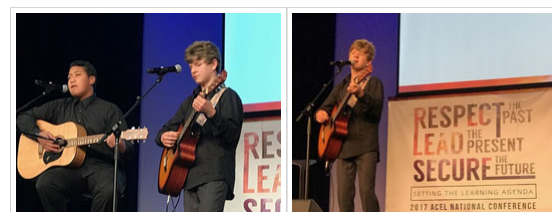
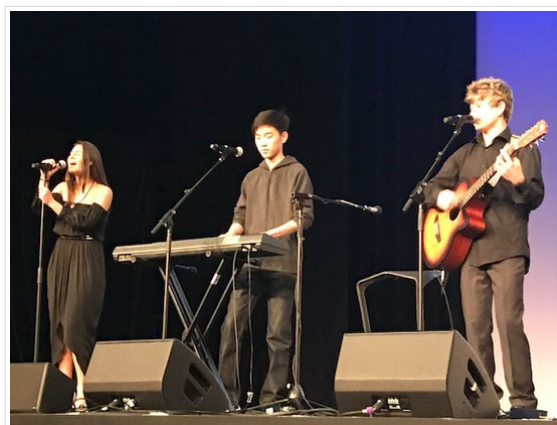
Rest assured, I will be available to help with any problems that arise in the coming weeks and parents should feel free to contact me at school with any concerns or questions regarding their child's progress.

Rob Miller
Year 10 Advisor

FACULTY NEWS

CAPA

This term is an exciting time in the Music department. Four students from Year 9, Valandou Contzonis, Jeremy Hockings, Numi Tugaga and Jack Zhuo are to be commended on their performance at the ACEL conference at Darling Harbour, which saw them perform to some of Australia's greatest educational leaders. They sacrificed their precious holiday time to travel into Darling Harbour with Mr Page and perform a selection of songs from Peakform.



In further news of musical excellence, two of our Year 9 students, James Polutele and Numi Tugaga, are getting ready for their upcoming 'Featured Artist' performances in School Spectacular this year. The boys have been working tirelessly both in and out of class to perfect their performances for the 24th and 25th of November. We wish them both the best of luck.

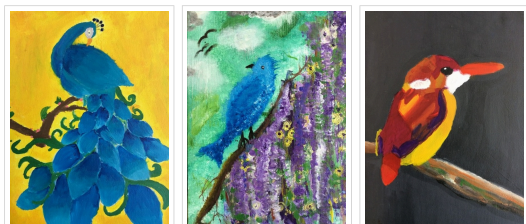
In Visual Arts, the 7VA12 class have been working on a canvas painting assessment task. Our mission was to paint an Australian or overseas bird of choice. Our class did some lead up work before drawing up our birds on colour blending and mixing of different tones to enhance the overall appearance of our paintings. I think our class has done a successful job with our paintings. Some of the species of birds that class members chose were Rainbow Lorikeets, Toucans, Parrots and Humming birds just to name a few.

Our class have been working on this task for about a term. It was an important assessment task worth 25% of our yearly grade so we had to put in a huge effort.

I learnt many new skills from this task, such as how to correctly paint in long strokes and hold my paintbrush correctly, colour mixing, adding tone and depth to paintings.

We would like to thank Ms Walton for teaching us many new skills.

Holly Mirfin Year 7



THE GRC COLLEGE WIDE CAPA CAMP

This December we are hosting our very first GRC College wide CAPA Camp at the Stanwell Tops Conference Centre. This state of the art facility provides hotel style accommodation in beautiful bushland surroundings. The students will be engaged in hands on workshops, masterclasses and other fun activities, providing a great end to 2017. Simply print out the CAPA Camp Form and hand it in to the CAPA department. The deposit for the camp (\$40.00) is due at the latest on November 15th with the balance (\$110.00) due the week following. Should you have any enquiries regarding the camp please don't hesitate to contact Mr Reidy, the Camp Coordinator.

Year 8 Visual Arts Report

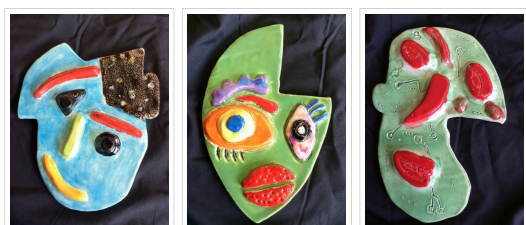
Year 8 Visual Arts Class 3 has been working hard on the topic Portraits. Over an eight week period, this class has been learning about the art movement Cubism and studying Pablo Picasso.

Their major work was to create a Cubist inspired portrait made out of clay.

Here are some of their completed portraits. Not bad, if I do say so myself!

Congratulations Year 8, your hard work has paid off with excellent results.

Michelle Walton
Visual Arts Teacher



Year 7 Visual Art

The classes have been enjoying experimenting with new art techniques to create artworks utilising the animal theme. The students created some fantastic artwork, showcasing their talent.

Year 8 Visual Art

Year 8 has been working on the theme Portraits. 8VA2 has made some wonderful self-reflective artworks in response to

the topic using their environment and how they feel about pollution.

Year 9 Photography and Digital Media

After finishing their Pinhole experiments, Year 9 will be starting their Photoshop unit of work. During the Pinhole experiments, students made their own pinhole cameras and took photos with some amazing results.

Year 10 Photographic and Digital Media

Year 10PDM is finishing the year making short videos and advertising posters for these videos. A recent excursion to Luna Park involved students completing images that appropriated David Hockney.

Primary Links

Year 5 and 6 primary school children from various schools within the area had a wonderful time in Visual Arts using a folded paper technique to design and create an eye that opened and closed. It was a wonderful few weeks and the students should be congratulated as they did their schools very proud.

Michelle Seinor
Visual Arts Teacher

2017 Working with an Artist project- Mural You are Here

'Creating a sense of place and inclusion for all students at GRC Peakhurst'

This year with funding from Gonski we were able to create a mural for the school that included Gifted and Talented students as well as students from disadvantaged backgrounds. There were students from all years working together to create an image that reinforced a sense of place for everyone at the school. It took the form of a fun map created with the help of artist Stephen Evans. The images attached show the wonderful outcome and the great time had by the students and the teacher as everyone worked together with the artist to create a memorable and fun mural for the school.



Thankam Rydstrand
Head Teacher CAPA

ARTIST - STEPHEN EVANS

Stephen Evans is one of Australia's iconic landscape and still-life artists. Drawing inspiration from his beloved hometown of Sydney, Stephen is renowned for his lively landscape and beachscape paintings which are much sought after worldwide.

Stephen's sense of humour and passion for all things creative shines through his quirky Sydney oil paintings. These artworks capture the essence of the laid-back landscape; immediately engaging, stimulating and provoking the viewer with their direct

bold style. Stephen creates unique distinctive landscapes with technical brilliance with bold use of colour, light and form.

<http://www.stephenevans.com.au>

(Instagram - [stephenartist](#))

Mathematics & Computing



The results for the 2017, ICAS Mathematics competition can now be revealed. There were 96 students who participated with 27 receiving a Credit or higher result of achievement. Congratulations to Alex Trong Le (Year 7), Brendon Lambert (Year 7), and Jackson Chen (Year 9) who were all awarded a 'Distinction'.

The top ranked students in each year group were as follows:

- Alex Trong Le Year 7
- Oliver Lay Year 8
- Jackson Chen Year 9
- Caitlin Guilfoyle & Erik Attard Year 10

For the ICAS Digital Technologies competition, GRC Peakhurst received three Credits - two in Year 9 and one in Year 10:

- Jacob Saville (1st) and William Murray (Year 9)
- Jack Appleby (Year 10)

David Smithard

Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics and Computing

PDHPE

PASS CAMP

At the end of Term 3 our Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS) students embarked on a 3 day Outdoor Education Camp to compliment several units taught throughout our curriculum. The camp took place at the Great Aussie Bush Camp, Kincumber.

The purpose of the camp program is to allow students to develop knowledge and understanding about the contribution of physical activity and sport to individual, community and societal wellbeing.

During the three day camp experience, the students participated in the following activities: high ropes, abseiling, giant swing, canoeing, leap of faith, mud challenge as well as a team building survivor exercise.

The students who attended are to be commended on their behaviour across the entire 3 days. It was positive to see each student upholding our school values of respect, responsibility and aiming for excellence.



Teachers VS Students

The annual Term 4 Teachers vs Students competition is really heating up with the teachers holding a solid 2-1 lead going into next week's Oz Tag game. The students have talked up a strong game, claiming that the teachers haven't got a chance in Oz Tag, however, the teachers are quietly confident that they can further improve their overall lead in the competition!

Week 2 - Basketball: Teachers 16 - Students 12

Week 3 - Soccer: Students 3 – Teachers 1

Week 4 – Netball: Teachers 13 – Students 3

It has been great to see so many students wanting to be involved in different sports each and every week. This makes for great competition and a healthy rivalry between staff and students.

Also, the behaviour of student spectators must also be commended.

Keep up the great work!

PASS Surfing Excursion

As part of the Year 9 PASS elective, students are completing a unit called Sporting the Risk whilst Year 10 PASS have been studying the unit Opportunities and Pathways (Yr10) which involves an Aquatics and Surf Lifesaving component. To further complement each unit and enrich their learning, students will be participating in a Safe Surfing Level 1 program with Cronulla Surfing Academy. The session will be conducted by fully qualified and experienced instructors at Wanda Beach, Cronulla.

If your child is still interested in going, please ensure notes are returned and payment is made as soon as possible. Places are filling fast!

Ms Neridah Hill

Head Teacher PDHPE

Sport Report

The second half of the summer season is well under way and what a stark contrast we have had in the weather compared to the total washout that was Term 1! The culmination of the senior (opens) competitions is happening this week and we have a number of teams who have been successful in securing a place in the finals. We wish them the best of luck against their opponents and hope that we can come home with some winner's trophies. The junior competitions have one more week of games to go before we enter into the finals and we have most teams sitting in finals positions. Good luck to all of our teams.

Rob Miller

Sports Coordinator

Special Education

Welcome to Week 5!

Our faculty is very busy this term, with lots of activities.

Please remember to look at the website and your child's communication book.

Our Year 10 students have been participating in the transition program, transitioning to GRC Oatley. This is a very exciting time. The students will need to wear their school uniform and take their recess and lunch. One of our Learning Support Officers will meet them at the school.

During this term, we will be visited by nine Year 6 students, transitioning into Year 7 for 2018. I know our students will make them feel welcome and we look forward to them joining us next year!

Our Annual Thank You Morning Tea will be held on Wednesday 15th November. We hope you can join us! Don't forget to RSVP.

School Presentation Day for Years 7, 8 and 9 will be held on Monday 11th December and for Year 10 on Friday 8th December.

Last term the Support Unit went on their annual 3 day camp to Stanwell Tops. This year GRC Hurstville Campus joined us as well. As always, a huge THANK YOU to all the staff for making this year's camp the best! The Tops staff was awesome as well!

Here are some of the student's thoughts...

I love camp because we have a disco and I love to dance. I also really enjoyed camp this year because I got to play Uno and I love Uno because I usually win.
By Maili

I loved camp this year and I can't wait to go next year. The thing I didn't like was the Reptile Show. The man brought snakes and I am scared of snakes!
By Dimitrios

Thanks for all your on-going support.

Peta Holm

Head Teacher Special Education Faculty

TAS

Term 4 was off to a busy start with our Year 9 and 10 students completing their yearly examinations. We have been impressed by the dedication and level of content knowledge demonstrated.

It has also seen the much anticipated upgrade of our kitchens. Thank you to our General Assistant Rob Thurlow and TAS teacher Kerry Adrianakos for the demolition and installation of the new benches. We now have commercial standard benches and sinks for every bay in B4 and the upgrade to B8 is to be finished by the start of 2018. In addition to the new benches, we have also installed a new commercial dishwasher. Classes from Years 7 to 10 have been using the dishwasher in practical lessons and have been most impressed that a wash cycle only takes 90 seconds! Using the dishwasher is not only hygienic but it is an invaluable experience for all of our students. It is an important piece of equipment in the hospitality industry and the

'know how' to operate it is essential for those students who may one day enter the trade.



This term, Year 9 Food Technology has also had experience using the commercial deep fryer. Students prepared a soda water batter and created fish and chips which they all enjoyed.

Year 7 Technology students have been learning new skills in Textiles and have created some outstanding cushion designs. They have researched, designed and constructed unique cushions to reflect their own personality using patchwork, applique, computer generated and hand-drawn designs.

In the coming weeks, students in Year 7 and 8 will prepare for their final assessment tasks. Year 7 will prepare a bread based snack and Year 8 will prepare cafe style foods. We are always excited to see the brilliant foods that they create and it is the perfect ending to our productive term and year.

Rosalie Gualtieri
Head Teacher TAS

Debating

Our school continues to offer students opportunities to enhance their oral communication and critical thinking skills through participation in extra-curricular activities that extend upon the knowledge gained in classroom activities.

On 20th October, Mr Fisher accompanied nine students who attended the Junior Legacy State Final for 2017 at the Art Gallery of New South Wales to listen to some of the state's most talented speakers. The participating students from other schools had to write a prepared 5 minute speech as well as provide a 2 minute impromptu speech which was given on the day. There were students representing areas across Sydney, from Fort Street High School to Baulkham Hills High School. The topics ranged from 'The Bystander Effect' to 'Catcalling'. Everyone was engrossed during the speeches and learnt something significant from each speaker.

Ultimately, there were two winners who will proceed onto the next round, which is the national level. The two winners had phenomenal speeches and were well deserving of their titles. Everyone had a wonderful time and met some amazing speakers. We encourage students to get involved in Legacy programs next year, such as the Junior Public Speaking Competition.

Tayanytah Iverach - Year 8
Aiden James - Year 7

GRC Peakhurst's debating teams have had great success again this year, with two of our four teams reaching Inter Zone

finals. Please see the below report of our most recent Year 7 and 8 A team debate.

We arrived at St George Girls High School ready to debate. Excitement and eagerness filled the air. The topic that was given was - "That Female Sports Should Receive Equal Broadcast Time on TV". We were on the Negative side and needed to argue against this statement. The Affirmative team (St George Girls High School) was adamant on their arguments, as was the Negative team. Both teams brought relevant and valid issues to the table. The Affirmative team presented their case, 'Equal broadcasting time for woman by 2019.' They stated that this push would help reach equality faster. While, the Negative team (GRC Peakhurst) argued that the opposition was endorsing inorganic change, therefore it would not be a genuine change to reach equality and would, instead, be forced change instead of occurring naturally over time. Although both teams provided strong arguments, it was a narrow win to the Affirmative team.

Dominique Richardson, Year 7



Mr Fisher and Miss Osmond would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the hard working debaters, reserves and Debating Crew for an outstanding year. We have enjoyed watching the students grow throughout a series of incredibly entertaining and intellectually stimulating debates. It is inspiring to see so many intelligent young people taking up this challenging yet rewarding extra-curricular activity that our school offers!

Miss Osmond and Mr Fisher Debating Coordinators

SRC

Welcome back to a very busy term!

SRC have been working on organising events for our school and attending Leadership Camp late last term. Katerina Pegios in Year 8 has created a video from camp for all to enjoy. Thank you to the 45 students as well as Mr Haydar and Mr Fisher who attended the camp and made 3 days in the Royal National Park such a rewarding experience!

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

While we were all relaxing on holidays, two of our SRC members Tayanytah Iverach and Valandou Contzonis were attending YMCA Junior Parliament. I had the honour of attending Parliament on two occasions to see the girls in action and can say wholeheartedly that the two girls did us proud and discussed many important issues for young Australians in a very informed and mature way. Amazing work Valandou and Tayanytah!!



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xTh1ATEqZq0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KUV0kqptkN8>

Year 7 SRC has been busy assisting with our Primary Links program to great success.

Year 7 and 8 SRC recently went on a leadership conference to Olympic Park (GRIP Leadership). Please see the following report.

Last week on the 26th October Year 7 and 8 SRC accompanied by Miss Osmond attended the 2017 GRIP Leadership Conference. The conference involved a series of games, activities and talks about making ourselves better leaders and how the school could benefit from this. At the conference, we went to numerous sessions on leadership activities such as fundraising, different ways to donate and a workshop on integrity. We learned about the four ways to grow and display integrity. These being: Admitting mistakes, Following through with promises, Backing up words with actions and to Display our values always. The most beneficial one to our school was a session on Transforming Event Participation, where we gained many ideas for planning events.

This day was an extremely productive day and all students that attended enjoyed participating in the engaging sessions. We learned some great ways to make our school a better place and enjoyed the event a lot! We all look forward to putting what we learned in the day into benefitting the school in aspects such as fundraisers, school events, transforming leadership activities and making ourselves better leaders.

Lara Dogan and Chloe Tzanis, Year 7



Leadership by the River continues to be a successful program that our students are involved in. Below is an account from two of our Year 10 leaders.

Leadership by the River

At the beginning of the year, 8 students were selected to participate in a program called Leadership by the River (LBR) that we were to work on throughout the year. This is a program where groups of students were selected from schools around the St George area and came together to brainstorm different ideas for school projects.

At the first workshop, we were required to come up with our own initiative that we could use around our school to make it a better place. The initiative that the group decided on was called 'Peaky Goes Green'. This is essentially a period where

students who have put their names down onto a list go around the school to collect rubbish and for doing this, depending on how much they collect, they obtain merits as a reward. We have done this 3 times this year and it seems to be working well as we are getting a good turnout of students each time to help make our school a better and healthier place.

In the next workshop, we were split up into groups, with primary schools that were also involved in the program. Jack Appleby, Luka and Valandou were working with Lugarno Public School whilst Arran, Samantha, Regan, Jack Bergin and Laura were with Peakhurst Primary School.

Jack Appleby, Luka and Valandou worked with Lugarno to come up with an initiative that can help the primary students around their school. This was to include more activities around the playground for students to use at recess and lunch, giving them more variety and entertainment around the school. Some of these include painting games on the playground such as snakes and ladders, hopscotch and handball courts to make the school look and feel more child friendly and fun for the students. Next year some of our GRC Peakhurst students are going to assist with the painting of these games at the school.

Arran, Samantha and Laura helped Peakhurst come up with an initiative that has also been used around our school. This was called 'Power Hour'. It is an hour once every week or two where all the power in the school is turned off. This gives classes the opportunity to go outside and have a lesson or use natural light instead of electric lights. This has been used several times around our school and has worked well. Regan and Jack Bergin also gave us a helping hand with this initiative which was helpful. We all report back on our projects at the final conference for the year for LBR on 16th November.

Overall, LBR is an amazing experience for us as a team as well as fostering stronger links with our local primary school students too. It allows us all to make our schools the best they can be so that we all can have the best learning experiences possible.

Arran Buncle and Regan Burford, Year 10

Remembrance Day, 11th November, is coming up this term and we will be represented at the Riverwood Service by our School Captains Kirsten Beccaris and Jack Appleby. We will also be represented at school by our Vice -Captains Bianca Winter and Tallis Brown. As Remembrance Day this year falls on a Saturday, we will be holding the service at school on an alternate day.

Year 6 Orientation Day, 5th December, will be upon us in the coming weeks and we will have a number of new students for 2017 around our school. All of our SRC will be assisting and we encourage all of our students to be as welcoming as possible.

SRC 2018 elections are coming up, so any students interested in applying for the SRC are encouraged to come and see me with any queries. The application process has also begun for School Captains/Vice - Captains so any eligible Year 10 2018 students should also see me. A reminder that School Captain and Vice - Captain applicants must have completed a successful year of being on the SRC prior to applying.

Last Thursday 2nd November we also held our World Vision Mufti Day in support of Simret, our sponsor child. At the time of completing this article, we were still counting how much we had raised but I want to thank our school community for making the day such a success. It was great to see so many students embrace our 'Sport' theme.



As always, please approach your SRC members for any suggestions you may have in ensuring our school is the best it can be.

Lauren Osmond
SRC Coordinator

GRC Peakhurst Well-being Team

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus is committed to the well-being of all students in the school by providing a positive and nurturing learning environment where all students are valued. Student well-being underpins all teaching and learning programs in an atmosphere of care and concern. Georges River College Peakhurst Campus not only caters for the academic needs of the child but ensures that its students are given a diverse curriculum and a breadth of extra-curricular opportunities to meet the social and emotional needs of young people. It is our focus to equip students with the important life skills they need to be leaders and responsible participants in a rapidly changing world.

Over the last month, our well-being programs have continued to run through the assistance of our community partners.

This term, Riverwood Community Centre commenced a Life Skills program with selected Year 7 students. The program runs each Wednesday period 2 and covers the development of Life Skills in the areas of Budgeting, Healthy relationships, Mental health, Self-esteem, Stress management and the Law. Thank you to Liz and Moe from Riverwood Community Centre for continuing to support our students.

Leyton Pollard from 3 Bridges Hurstville in combination with Christine Tsekas our School Counsellor has once again run the Drumbeat Program this term with selected Year 8 students. Students have continued to improve their communication and motivational skills whilst also improving their self-esteem.

Our School Chaplain, Tom Ayres has continued to work with range of GRC Peakhurst Students each Tuesday, providing individual and group mentoring and running a range of well-being programs.

As part of the PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) 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. The following students are to be congratulated for being successful in our end of Term 3 draw on Wednesday 20th September.

Year 7 - Vedanta K/ Jade K

Year 8 – Jacob A/ Ben B

Year 9 – Alex / William

Year 10 – Kevin L/ Tori N

Our next draw will take place in the week commencing 13th November.

Our Student Well-being Team and Ms Walton are continuing to plan and prepare for our Annual White Ribbon Initiative - a whole school assembly on Friday 17th November recognising the campaign to prevent violence against women. All students are encouraged to get on board with the White Ribbon Initiative and show their support by joining or assisting the student Well-being committee.

Following the White Ribbon Assembly, each year group will have an individual assembly to recognise achievement across all subject areas throughout the semester. The year group assemblies are organised and run by students, highlighting topics and information relevant to that year group.

The Semester 2 Rewards Excursion to Jamberoo Water Park will occur on Thursday 14th December. Eligible students are requested to collect a permission note from Mr Wilson.

The PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Team is currently in the process of organising new signage to be displayed throughout the school. The signage will outline specific behavioural expectations for the following areas within the school including: classrooms, playground, bathrooms, canteen and corridors. Behavioural expectations for our students in the community and public places will also be highlighted around some of the exit points from school grounds. In early 2018, PBL will be relaunched throughout the school. Students will participate in ongoing lessons based on our core values of respect, responsibility and excellence.

Research consistently shows that students who regularly attend school have increased learning and well-being outcomes. At GRC Peakhurst, we are continually monitoring attendance rates with an expectation that all students are attending school unless they have a legitimate reason to be away such as being ill. If a student is absent from school, there is an expectation that the absence is explained by either writing a letter outlining the absence, by calling or sending an SMS to the school. Unexplained absences are closely monitored and if an absence is not explained, parents will receive a letter requesting an explanation for the absence. Year 10 students who are absent on days when assessment tasks are due or on days when in-class assessment or exams take place, require a doctor's certificate to be presented on the first day they return to school.

Scott Wilson
Deputy Principal

Student Well-being Committee Report

On the 21st September, the Student Well-being Committee had a planning day to organise the events for our White Ribbon Day to be held at our Campus on the 17th November. Students were broken up into small groups to work on speeches for the formal assembly, advertising, and video making and editing.

Also, the committee has a very special guest speaker Beti Ford who spoke to these students for an hour on a very heart felt topic, 'Her survival of being a victim of childhood domestic violence.' Her story was extremely moving and eye opening and we really appreciate Ms Ford coming to our school and sharing such a personal story with us.

Also on the 17th November at recess, the Student Wellbeing Committee will be running stalls to raise much-needed funds for White Ribbon. These stalls will include a cake stall, White Ribbon stall, hair ribbons and braiding. So please bring your money on Friday 17th November.

I would like to thank the following Well-being students for working hard on the day for such a worthwhile cause.

Joy Holmes 7
Andrei Esdaile Watts 7
Leon Jin 7
Isaac Roberts 7
Dominique Richardson 7
Ethan Eggins Miller 7
Sebastian Najdanovic 8
Tayanytah Iverach 8
Rose Mekonen 8
Tamara Davis 8
Valandou Contzonis 9
Andee Hardie 9
Christina Ekmekdjian 9
Dimitra Parisi 9
Jeremy Alysandratos 10

Michelle Walton
Student Wellbeing Coordinator



Gifted and Talented Education News

Gifted and Talented Public Speaking

On Friday 20th October, our Gifted and Talented Public Speaking students attended an excursion to state-final of the Legacy Public Speaking Competition at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. This was an exciting opportunity for all students that provided them with the chance to discuss and evaluate the oral communication, critical thinking and persuasive writing skills of the state's finest young speakers.

The contestants delivered prepared speeches that engaged with a variety of engaging topics relevant to contemporary society, with focus areas including, 'Gender Inequality',

'Domestic Violence' and 'Modern Technology'. In addition, each speaker had to deliver an impromptu speech on the topic, 'Under the Weather'. Ultimately, all students had a fantastic day and commented on the way it would influence their public speaking in the future.

Mr P Fisher

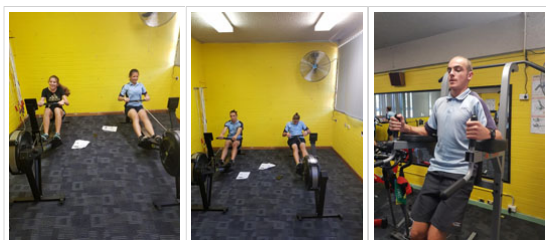
Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator

GAT Health & Fitness Coaching

This term, students have been participating in a class fitness challenge that aimed to test their capabilities in a range of exercises that were closely linked to health and skill related components of fitness. Within the school gym, each student worked with another partner in the class across the 3 sessions to test their cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance and power. To increase the competitive aspect of this learning experience, students received points based upon their performance in each of the fitness challenges. Students would receive individual and team points for their efforts which heightened performance levels as they competed for the class title of *2017 Health & Fitness Athlete of the year*.

The final results for 2017 can be seen below:

Individual Male Results	Individual Female Results	Team Results
1st Place – Alessio Benedetti	1st Place – Kirsten Beccaris	1st Place – Alessio Benedetti & Tallis Brown
2nd Place – Mark Younes	2nd Place – Eden Holmes	2nd Place – Billy Adams & Mark Younes
3rd Place – Tallis Brown	3rd Place – Fatima Halidovic	3rd Place- Luke Hawkes & Kirsten Beccaris



Mr A. Morley

GAT Health & Fitness Coaching

PDHPE Teacher

Aboriginal Education News

Students are continuing to embrace opportunities both in and outside of school to enhance their opportunities for interacting within the community and gaining leadership skills to move into a successful future.

We would like to congratulate Tiana Thompson on being awarded the 'Deadly Kids' award for 2017.

AIME is providing a strong foundation for our students supporting them every Monday afternoon with homework, assessments and a general yarn. Thank you to the following students who have shown commitment in attending the

afternoon sessions: Sebastien Najdanovic, Kai Dickson, Pania Peka, Jermaine Baxter and Keegan and Mallee Warner.

Students are continuing with and enjoying their AIME mentoring workshops at Sydney University with the last one for 2017 being held on Friday 20th October, 2017. The students have been provided with wonderful opportunities to speak with the founder of AIME Jack Manning Bancroft, Aboriginal artist Browyn Bancroft and Australian actor and member of Bangara Dance Company, Luke Faye. They were immersed in learning a song in language presented to the students by the Tribal Warrior school.

Triple J was also there and the students were filmed as part of a photoshoot for the radio station's advertisements.

I would like to thank all the students for their hard work and attendance at these events. They do their school and community proud. We should all encourage these students to set the bar high and aim for excellence in everything they do.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Monday tutoring and mentoring squad runs from 3:00 – 4:00 pm in the library or D17 for all Aboriginal students. Afternoon tea is provided.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MURAL planning

Bush Tucker Garden Implementation - Terms 3 and 4.

Girls Supervisor

The girls continue to enjoying working with the girls from the Menai Youth Group on a Wednesday morning. Checking in on them last week, Tiana had provided the girls with a three course breakfast.

The Girls Leadership and Resilience Workshop was held on Thursday 2nd November and by all accounts the 22 girls that attended had a wonderful day. They were involved in public speaking activities, walk and talk, and started on their doll house projects. The last of these workshops will be held in late November.

Students for Meritorious Mention

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus is an educational setting that celebrates the broad range of student achievements that are present in everyday activities. Each school day, our students display a committed attitude towards their ongoing education, advanced interpersonal communication skills and an outstanding sense of social justice.

The following students have displayed our school values in the previous weeks and are commended by each and every staff member for their achievements.

Michael Franks

Stephanie Konjarski

Brendon Lambert

Indiah Roberts

Andrei Esdaile-Watts

P & C Second Hand Uniform Shop

Do you have and good quality used school uniforms that you no longer require?

In particular, we are in need of size 12 – 18 boys and girls, however, any items and sizes would be greatly appreciated.

Donations may be left at the school office at any time or at the uniform shop which is open every Wednesday from 8:00 am till 9:00 a.m.

We would be grateful if items can be washed and have no tears or stains.

Thank you for your support.