



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



11 May 2018

From the Principal

Welcome to the beginning of Term 2 and more exciting times at GRC Peakhurst Campus. Georges River College staff commenced the term with a professional learning day working with highly acclaimed psychologist Andrew Fuller. The focus of the professional learning revolved around “The Resilient Mindset” and “Growth Mindsets”. “The Resilient Mindset” extends the concept of “The Growth Mindset” and explores how students approach challenges with greater confidence. The establishment of a resilient mindset increases engagement in learning, motivation and academic success. These concepts relate to the factors that assist people in establishing emotional connections and building strong learning relationships. The most important of these factors is developing the ability to regulate our emotions!

It was a fascinating day of exploration and thought-provoking insights into “Neuro-Developmental Differentiation”. This is the science of effective differentiation of how the brain functions in learning. The main brain systems explored throughout the day included: thinking and logic; concentration and memory; language and words; spatial reasoning; planning and sequencing; numbers; perceptual / motor co-ordination and people skills. The staff was empowered with a deeper understanding of how the brain works during the process of learning and can now approach their teaching and learning with alternate mindsets.

It was with great anticipation, towards the end of Term 1, that our school officially unveiled and launched the 2018 – 2020 School Plan. In developing the 2018 - 2020 School Plan, all the key stakeholders, including staff, students, parents and community representatives actively participated and contributed in the planning process. This School Plan is endorsed and supported by all the key stakeholders within the school community. The school learning community is committed to fostering students and staff in being engaged learners for life.

The 2018 - 2020 School Plan is the blueprint of the vision, purpose and direction of what students will be learning, how teachers will be developing their practices and why everyone will be continually striving towards enhancing their capacity to further develop their skill – sets and deepen their understanding within a rapidly changing world. As a result of the extensive consultation process with all the school stakeholders, the following three strategic directions were identified:

1. Engaging students to develop authentic learning skills within a dynamic learning community.

Students will be developing foundational skills in Literacy, Numeracy and Social & Emotional Learning so that students are self – motivated and collaborative learners with the personal capabilities for future success and wellbeing. School learning projects will include: Reading for Meaning; Writing with Purpose; Working & Connecting with Numbers; Positive Behaviour for Learning and Project – Based Learning.

2. Building capacity and leadership of all staff within an innovative learning community.

The strengthening of an existing culture where all staff engage in ongoing individualised and shared professional learning including leadership development. The staff will aspire to commit to evidence – based learning, development and innovation to ensure a positive impact on student learning. Staff will tailor individual professional learning plans and implement growth mindset strategies into everyday practices. The focus will be on sharing resources and deepening the understanding of best practice in formative assessment within every classroom. Staff will continue to build capacity to individually and collaboratively plan the implementation of Differentiated Teaching & Learning in every classroom.

3. Strengthening partnerships through an inclusive learning community.

Our school will endeavour to further strengthen collaboration and connections between schools, parents and the wider community to inform and support the continuity of learning for all students. The emphasis will be to continually encourage parents to be active participants in their child’s learning. We

will continue to engage with our partner primary schools in mutually beneficial educational opportunities through our newly formed Community of Practice network. We will also enhance the learning opportunities with our GRC colleagues by strengthening our professional networks within the college campuses. Also, we will continue to initiate, build and further strengthen partnerships with external agencies to become active participants in student learning within our school learning community.

This looks and sounds very exciting and extremely promising as we all endeavour to deliver educational and learning opportunities that allow all students to develop skills to a high level. In this way, we continually provide experiences that are intellectually challenging, engaging and stimulating.

Another very good educational publication that is thoroughly recommended for reading is the 2017 GRC Peakhurst Campus Annual Report. This document and the 2018 – 2020 School Plan are available on our school website. The Annual Report is provided to the community of GRC Peakhurst Campus to account for the school's operations and achievements throughout the academic year. It provides details of the progress the school has made to provide high quality educational opportunities for all students. It outlines all findings from self – assessment that reflect the impact of key school strategies for improved learning. This report also highlights the benefits to all students from the expenditure of resources that include equity funding.

In conclusion, we are all looking forward to another very engaging and productive term as we all continue to talk together, plan together and work together at GRC Peakhurst Campus.

Mr Terry Vallis
Principal

Deputies' Report

Welcome to Term 2!

At Georges River College Peakhurst Campus, we value **Respect, Responsibility** and **Excellence** in all areas of our school. A focus on students achieving *Excellence* by working to the best of their ability is particularly relevant as we enter Term 2, with our teachers moving further into assessing and reporting for all subjects, and students completing more and more assessment tasks including their half-yearly exams. In addition to internal assessment, Year 7 and Year 9 students will sit the external assessment NAPLAN on Monday May 14th – Thursday May 17th; Selected Year 10 students will be working with staff to address NAPLAN National Minimum Standards across weeks 4 – 6, May 21st – 8th June (parents of students selected for this process will be notified directly). Please refer to our school webpage and social media for calendar dates and updates for all assessment periods.

<http://www.peakhurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

The feedback for each assessment task regardless of the grade is an opportunity for a student to aim for excellence by moving their learning and achievement forward. Where a student is pleased with their result, it is important to take the time to

identify where they are on track; to know the exact skills they have developed or course outcome they have achieved. Where a student may make a mistake in their work, it is important to acknowledge that mistakes can help us to learn by checking what information or skill was missing or not applied correctly. To support these steps, a number of skills from our Study Skills Program have been shared at the end of this report, titled Assessment Task Feedback. Remember, all 2018 Assessment Guides and task notifications are available on our school webpage for your reference. To support the successful completion of tasks, the Homework Centre is available each Monday and Tuesday 3:00 – 4:00pm in the library.

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

For our students to always aim for excellence, we want to ensure that all class time is focused on learning. Therefore, all contact to and from students must go via our office and not using mobile phones. Parents and students are encouraged to refer to page 5 of our school diary, which details the procedure for students when they are absent, needing to leave school early, or feeling unwell. You will also see on this page information about lost property. We have many expensive items of uniform that are unlabelled and yet to be collected in our office. As the weather gets colder, parents and students are encouraged to check that all uniform items, especially jackets and jumpers are clearly labelled so that in the event of being lost, they can be returned or collected. As always, as a uniform school, all students are expected to be in full school uniform. If unsure of what uniform can be added for warmth, please check our policy.

In exciting news, to ensure all students have a positive start to their day of learning our new Breakfast Club has been launched. Each Tuesday and Thursday morning from 7:45 – 8:15 am, students are invited to room A0.11 to meet and greet their peers and eat a nutritious breakfast. All of this is provided for a gold coin contribution. Many thanks to Ms Seidel and Mr Miller who are coordinating this initiative. We look forward to seeing many of students take up this opportunity.

ASSESSMENT TASK FEEDBACK

What do you do when you get a disappointing assignment mark?

We all have times when we think we have done brilliantly then get an assignment back and are really disappointed. You could just feel really bad or you could try these productive steps:

1. Review and understand

The first step is to work through the feedback and work out what went wrong.

- Did you not meet the criteria?
- What feedback were you given from the teacher?
- Do you understand the feedback?
- Can you work out why you got the mark you did?

If you don't understand why you got the mark you did, it is **ESSENTIAL** you ask your teacher for further clarification. Otherwise you will keep making the same mistakes.

2. Challenge or accept

Once you understand the issue, you can either accept or challenge it. **ACCEPT:** If you feel that the mark was fair, then it is time to move on. There is no point beating yourself up any more about your disappointing mark. Instead, you need to treat this as a learning process. The people who are most successful in life don't let their mistakes get them down, they see them as a learning opportunity where they can improve and make sure it doesn't happen again. However, if you really think your mark was unfair and you had met all of the criteria, you can talk to your teacher and politely explain your point of view and ask if they would reconsider your mark.

3. Learn and change

The only way to improve is to work out what you did wrong, then try and fix it. It is a good idea to re-do part of the work and re-submit. Not everyone has the commitment to do this, but if you do, then you will really see improvement in your results. It might just be a case of re-doing a section of the assignment and asking your teacher to review it. But if you don't have another attempt, you won't know whether or not you have really taken the feedback on board. Some students let a bad mark get them down and start to think they are not capable of succeeding, so they don't try to address the issue, make similar mistakes again and just feel worse. Don't be that sort of person! Learn from what you have done and have another try.

Another good thing you can do is to ask to see other students' work who received top grades for their assignments - to evaluate what was missing in yours or how you could improve yours. It would also be a great idea for your next assignment to show your teacher a plan or draft demonstrating how you think you are meeting the criteria to attain feedback well BEFORE handing it in.

We again look forward to working with you and your children this term and invite you to contact the Year Advisor or the Deputy Principals if you have any concerns.

Mr Scott Wilson
Deputy Principal – Year
9 & 10

Ms Kim Osborne
Deputy Principal - Year
7 & 8

Year 7 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to Term 2 which is set to be a busy and exciting conclusion to Semester 1. Year 7 students will be expected to complete a number of Half Yearly assessment tasks over the coming weeks. Students and parents are reminded to check the Year 7 Assessment Booklet for further details regarding upcoming assessment tasks. The school's website is also a useful resource that allows students and parents to access assessment tasks and related information.

NAPLAN - 15, 16 and 17 May, 2018

NAPLAN is an annual assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The tests cover skills in reading, writing, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and numeracy. This year, the test will be taking place in the school hall on the 15, 16 and 17 May, 2018.

School Diaries

Students and parents are reminded that school diaries must be brought to school every day. Diaries are a useful resource that allow student to maintain their organisation across the working day. Parents are also encouraged to check their child's diary for information regarding homework and assessments.

Attendance and Absences

Please ensure that when your child is absent, their absence is explained with either a phone call to the school or a note signed and brought back to school on their return. A medical certificate should also be provided where necessary. It is important that students take on the responsibility of keeping up with work and asking teachers for any work they may have missed during their absences.

Students are reminded to see me to discuss any issues or concerns they may be experiencing. I can be found in the PDHPE staffroom within the school hall. Finally, I would like to wish all students a productive and enjoyable Term 2.

Mr Aaron Morley
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to Term 2 of the 2018 school year. Students are to expect an extremely busy term with all subjects having assessments and exams taking place. It is important that students take on the responsibility of keeping up with work and asking teachers for any work they may have missed during their absences.

Assessment Procedures

There are still several Year 8 students who are yet to return the accompanying note to the Guide to Year 8 Assessment Booklet. This note (green note) needs to be read and signed by both students and their parent/carer and then returned to me ASAP. Students are to see me if they have misplaced their note and need a new one.

'Cyberia' Brainstorm Production

On Tuesday 3 May, Year 8 students attended a presentation in the school hall run by the Brainstorm production organisation. The presentation was called 'Cyberia' and it addressed cyber safety and cyber bullying in schools which helps improve student wellbeing and mental health. The presentation was very informative and useful as it targeted issues relevant to the Year 8 students. They were then given some time for a question and answer segment at the end of the production.

Attendance and Absences

Please ensure that when your child is absent, their absence is explained with either a phone call to the school or a note signed and brought back to school on their return. A medical certificate should also be provided where necessary.

Finally, I would like to encourage students to come and speak to me if they have any welfare or other concerns. I can be found in the PDHPE staffroom which is located in the school hall.

Mr Ibrahim Haydar
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to Term 2.

This will be a challenging term for students as they complete assessment tasks and coursework. First semester reports will be written by the end of the term and handed out to students.

Students are advised to think about establishing an effective study routine, prepare in advance for assessment tasks and to utilise the Homework Centre on Monday and Tuesday afternoons in the school library. Permission notes are available from Ms Diamond in the HSIE staffroom.

It is important that students refer to their assessment schedules and their school diaries to help organise themselves. Any misplaced assessment tasks are also available on the school website under assessment/year/subject.

Please be aware that any assessment tasks missed will need a medical certificate or note from a parent/caregiver to explain the absence. If a note is not provided, the students will be awarded a zero mark for the task.

On Friday 8 June, students will be attending a compulsory performance about risky behaviour and substance abuse. They will be bringing an information note in Week 2 about the performance. The cost is \$6.00 payable to the front office.

NAPLAN will be taking place in the school hall on the 15, 16 and 17 May, 2018.

I am available in E block in the English staffroom for any students who need to see me,

Ms Alice Talevski
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to Term 2. Students will be very busy this term with assessment tasks and exams taking place in all subjects. Students are encouraged to speak to their class teachers if they are unsure of what to revise and seek out any work they may have missed due to absences.

Assessment Procedures

There are still several Year 10 students who are yet to return the accompanying note to the Guide to Year 10 Assessment Booklet. This note (purple note) needs to be read and signed by both students and their parent/carer and then returned to me ASAP. Students are to see me if they have misplaced their note and need a new one.

Year 10 Formal

The Year 10 Formal has been tentatively booked for Wednesday 5 December, 2018, at Doltone House, Sylvania

Waters. This formal is held to celebrate the graduation of the students and serves as a final farewell to Year 10, 2018. At this stage, the total cost of the formal is yet to be confirmed, however, it will be between \$110 - \$120. This includes a three course meal, soft drinks, venue decorations, DJ hire and security, as well as travel to and from the venue. Students have the opportunity to pay for the formal in instalments. In order to confirm the booking for the Year 10 Formal, I am asking for expressions of interest as I need at least 100 students to attend in order for the formal to proceed. Please return the expression of interest note to me ASAP and pay a \$50 deposit to the front office in order to secure a spot at the formal.

Attendance and Absences

Please ensure that when your child is absent, their absence is explained with either a phone call to the school or a note signed and brought back to school on their return. A medical certificate should also be provided where necessary.

Finally, I would like to encourage students to come and speak to me if they have any welfare or other concerns. I can be found in the Support Staffroom in F-Block (next to the dance room).

Happy Learning!

Ms Julia Picone
Year 10 Advisor

FACULTY NEWS

CAPA

MUSIC

The Magnificent Musical Month of May has arrived, in all of its Autumnal Majesty. This month sees preparation for many musical events later this year, starting with Schools Spectacular auditions. With so much talent at one school, it is amazing that we were successful in having three students accepted through their video auditions for Schools Spectacular: Mohammad T, Numi T and James P. Of these three students, James and Numi have been successful in advancing through to the final round of auditions, to be held later this month. Good luck boys!

Another musical event on our calendar is Stand Tall, which is taking 10 of our students to sing the Bill Withers classic 'Lean On Me', at the Darling Harbour International Convention Centre later this year. This promises to be a fantastic event, which includes schools from all over the state both from the Public and Private systems.

We are currently starting the preparations for our own musical extravaganza evening Peakform, where this year's theme will be Originals. As of this term, we currently have ten original songs composed by some of the amazingly talented musicians at our school being featured, with Mr. Page and Mr. Reidy deciding on the final cut for songs this term.

The Rock, Jazz, R&B and Vocal groups are all off to a great start this term, with a little help from Bowie, The Beatles and jazz great Jaco Pastorius. Any students interested should make sure they join and attend these groups as rehearsals are starting now in preparation for Peakform. Rock group is on Tuesday mornings at 7:00am before school, R&B group

rehearsals are held after school on Mondays at 3:00pm and Jazz group rehearses on Friday afternoons from 3:00pm. Vocal group times are to be confirmed.

To stay up to date with all things CAPA like our Facebook page: "GRC Peakhurst CAPA".

Mr Scott Page
CAPA Teacher

Dance

It has been a very successful Term 2 in Dance at GRC Peakhurst Campus.

Both our Dance Ensemble and our Dance Company were successful in their auditions for the 2018 Ultimo Dance Festival Series. Their performances entitled 'Dusk' and 'Conformity' have been selected to perform on Monday 18 June (Company) and Tuesday 19 June (Ensemble) at the Everest Theatre, Seymour Centre. Please jump onto the Seymour Centre website to secure your tickets! We wish all of our dancers the best of luck for this performance.

Congratulations also to our Dance Ensemble and Dance Company who qualified for the Dance Star State Championships over the weekend. Our teams competed in exceptionally hard divisions and came out with fantastic results. Our Dance Company achieved 1st place in their division and Dance Ensemble received a very worthy 3rd place. Well done to our girls and boys, you have made GRC Peakhurst Campus very proud. We wish you the very best of luck at the Dance Star State Finals on Sunday 24 June at the Sutherland Entertainment Centre!

Ms Mardi Crammond
Dance Coordinator

HSIE

The H.S.I.E. faculty has been extremely busy so far this year with a wide range of learning experiences and activities arranged across all years and subjects.

Anzac Ceremony

The H.S.I.E. faculty, under the leadership of Ms H. Diamond, held a commemoration ceremony for Anzac Day on Friday 4 May. The ceremony was led by Lara D, Katerina P, Rhys O, Leon J and Alexia S. All of these student leaders are to be congratulated for the respect and dedication they demonstrated towards the event. In addition, Jeremy H and Dimitry E produced a video showing the involvement of Australians at War.

Australians at War

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ReYwxxBYmc>

Year 7 HSIE (History)

As part of their studies in History this semester, Year 7 HSIE students have been working through a topic on Ancient Egypt. This topic is specifically designed to develop their literacy while learning to apply a range of historical skills. Towards the end of Term 1, many of the students actively participated in a practical

experiment to mummify a tomato using the same procedures that the Ancient Egyptians used thousands of years ago.

Year 8 HSIE (History)

As part of Year 8 studies in HSIE during Term 1, students undertook a depth study on the Medieval World. Whilst working through the unit, students were encouraged to develop an empathetic understanding of what life was like during the time period. Included below is an outstanding 'Diary Entry' empathy task written by Christian T of 8R.

Medieval Europe empathy task by Christian T.

Year 9 Geography

In Term 1, Year 9 students undertook a key focus study on Sustainable Biomes. As part of their assessment for this topic, students worked in small groups to choose a crop grown across the globe, research the nature, economic and environmental impact of the crop's production and evaluate the sustainability of this product. In addition to a written section, students developed their technology skills by displaying their findings as an infographic. Below are examples of the outstanding infographic submissions.

Year 9 History Elective

Students of History Elective, as part of their Constructing History topic, were invited to attend an excursion to The Rocks area of Sydney. This excursion, led by Ms Schenk, was a thoroughly enjoyable day. Students participated in a guided tour of a range of archaeological sites from the earliest years of European settlement in Australia. Students began with an information session by an archaeologist. Next, students visited an active dig site and analysed some of the artefacts previously found on the site. As a special treat, students were taken to a recently discovered gun powder room built under the foundations of the pylons for the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Many of the sites visited are not open to the public, a factor which added to the excitement of the day.

An assessment for this topic included students undertaking research on an archaeological site of their choice. They carried out research into the site itself, the archaeological and historical research undertaken and a discussion regarding issues of protection and conservation. This research was then presented to the class as an oral task and PowerPoint presentation. Included below are examples of the outstanding research produced:

Year 10 Geography

The H.S.I.E. faculty took all of Year 10 to the Bate Bay (Cronulla) area to undertake a full day of fieldwork as part of their Geography studies. Their focus topic, on Environmental Change and Management, required them to critically evaluate the human impacts and management of this popular, yet fragile, local resource.

The weather throughout the day was glorious and both staff and students had an enjoyable and informative experience in the field.

Year 10 History Elective

Year 10 History Elective worked through a thematic topic on Crime and Punishment from ancient times to contemporary society. This interesting unit, dealt with topics such as Witchcraft, Asylums, Torture and the Spanish Inquisition. Students were charged with the role of researching the development of different forms of punishment over time and evaluating how punishments changed to meet the needs of society. In small groups or individually students researched, scripted and produced a historical documentary.

The work produced by many of the students was of an excellent standard. Included below are examples of some excellent work produced:

Jaden A and Michael F

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d6nsGcA8v4k>

Maddison M

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZnnID2tCbI>

Tamara T and Gina Z

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53rz33hPQ7w>

Grace H

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZeHyrgXa_6I

Samantha B

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyHYdRvnkV4>

Hale B

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gm2ii_wUVfY

Valandou C

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5-rwwKmpTB4>

Ms Hayley Diamond
Head Teacher HSIE

Mathematics & Computing

Changes to the Mathematics Faculty

There are a few changes to staffing in the Mathematics Faculty this term.

I'd like to warmly welcome both Mr Nicholas Grose and Mr Matt Hall to the faculty. Mr Grose is replacing Ms Daniela Tavares (who I'd like to thank for her contributions throughout Term 1) while Mr Hall will be replacing Mr Stoyan Kostas (who has moved back to the Science Faculty).

Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teachers should you have any queries or concerns.

Ms Christine Keir
Head Teacher Mathematics and Computing

PDHPE

Sport Update

This term has seen the commencement of our winter sport competition within the St George Zone. Our students have been trialling for the many teams that we are entering in the

2018 competition. Soccer is once again hugely popular and ever growing, where we have a number of teams in each age group in both the girls and the boy's competitions. This year the Zone is trialling a rugby league 7's format in addition to offering boys an Oztag competition. This diversification is, once again, another indicator of the ever growing popularity of our grade sport competition.

Term 2 also sees our students involved in a lot of running, jumping and throwing at our annual athletics carnival. The date for this year's carnival is Friday 1 July and we will be back to our usual venue out at Barden Ridge Athletics Track. Please feel free to come and lend your support on this very successful and competitive day.

Duke of Edinburgh International Award

This year we are excited to be running the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award at GRC Peakhurst. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award is an internationally recognised program for young people, building their skills to equip them for life and work. By creating opportunities for young people to develop skills, get physically active, give service and experience adventure, the Award can play a critical role in their development. The award is an excellent opportunity for students to extend themselves in a variety of different areas of development. If you or your child is interested in this valuable award and would like to know more, please speak to Mr Miller in PDHPE as soon as possible, as the window for registration is closing soon.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ReYwxxBYmc>



PASS Gala Day

At the end of Term 1, Year 10 PASS elective students were responsible for organising a sporting gala day for Peakhurst West Public School, as a part of their Event Management assessment task. Each group of Year 10 students developed

a range of engaging games that were designed for enjoyment and to improve the fundamental movement skills within their year 5/6 audience. We would like to personally thank the staff and students at Peakhurst West Public School for their continued support and involvement in our Year 10 PASS Gala Days. We look forward to doing it all again next year!

Canterbury Futsal

On the 4 and 5 April, GRC Peakhurst entered a number of boys and girls teams into the Canterbury district Futsal tournament which was organised by Football NSW. The event was held at the Morris Iemma Indoor Sports Centre. The annual competition was well received by an enthusiastic bunch of our footballing students who thoroughly enjoyed the day's proceedings. Students from GRC Peakhurst are to be commended on their excellent behaviour and sportsmanship that was consistently displayed throughout the day.

A special congratulations must go to the U/16 A's team who were successful in progressing to the semi-finals. Well done on this achievement.

We look forward to entering this competition again next year.



Bill Turner Cup

On Friday 4 May, the Bill Turner Cup squad competed in their first round knockout clash against Caringbah High School. The home game was hosted at Gannon's Park, Peakhurst. Unfortunately, the boys went down 2 - 1 in what was a nail-biting finish to the game. GRC Peakhurst dominated possession throughout the entire game, however, the boys were unable to capitalise on their chances.

The players are to be congratulated on their efforts and the respect they demonstrated throughout the day.

Project Based Learning in PDHPE

The PDHPE faculty is thrilled and proud of the recent completion of our school long jump pit. During the last month of Term 1, a number of our students were involved in a project based learning scheme that provided students with an exciting opportunity to plan and construct our latest sporting development here at GRC Peakhurst.

The long jump pit will be highly utilised during lessons and assessment tasks in the coming weeks as the school progresses towards the Athletics Carnival on 1 June.

Special thanks to the teachers and students who were involved in this project.



Zone Cross Country

GRC Peakhurst hosted the annual Cross Country carnival on 26 March, 2018. The results have been compiled and a zone qualifiers list has been placed on the sports notice board. This year, the carnival will be taking place at Scarborough Park, Hawthorne St, Monterey on Tuesday 22 May, 2018. \$10:00 is now payable to front office and students are reminded that the bus will leave from school at 8:00am sharp from behind the school's library. Students are expected to wear full sports uniform on the day.

Good luck to all competitors.

Please see the PDHPE faculty if you have any further questions.

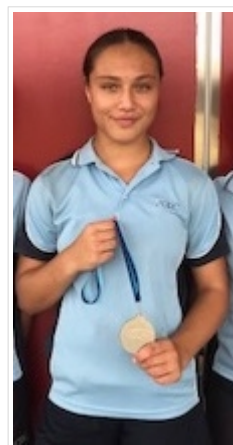
CHS U15s Touch Football Carnival

GRC Peakhurst is extremely proud of the achievements of Bienne Terita who was involved in the Combined High Schools Touch Football Carnival in Mudgee over the weekend, 5 - 6 May, 2018. Bienne is a talented young athlete who has outstanding skills and potential in a number of sporting areas.

Bienne was also highly commended by her coaches, as seen below:

"Bienne Terita competed at the CHS U15s Touch Football Carnival in Mudgee over the weekend. She was an outstanding representative for your school and the region, and was humble in both victory and defeat. For the first time in 8 years the Sydney East team made the semi-finals, finishing third overall. Bienne should be commended for her outstanding effort and conduct. Congratulations!"

We would also like to commend Bienne on her excellent achievements over the weekend!



Mr Aaron Morley
PDHPE Teacher

Special Education

Welcome to Term 2!

First of all, I would 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 the 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 three campuses. Here is 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." **Jarrold**

"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 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.

Thanks for your continued cooperation and support.

Mrs Peta Holm
Head Teacher Special Education Faculty

TAS

It has been a productive time in Technologies, with the first rotation of Year 7 and 8 units coming to a conclusion. Each student undertakes three rotations per year, specialising in working with particular materials and technologies and each group having to undertake design challenges. Hence, after this rotation students have designed and produced either:

- creative cushion covers that have reflected their personal interest such as their football teams.
- healthy snack foods, including undertaking a bread based snack challenge



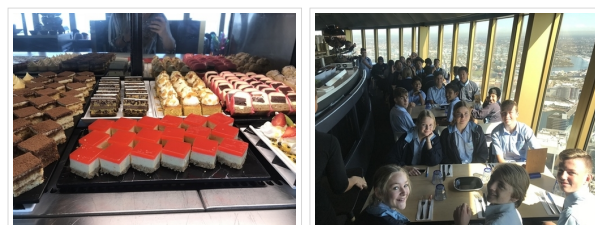
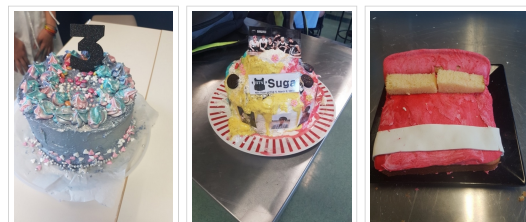
- a wooden and acrylic storage box
- memo boards or shadow box using timber

- electronic flashing circuit boards
- café foods, café venues and café menus.

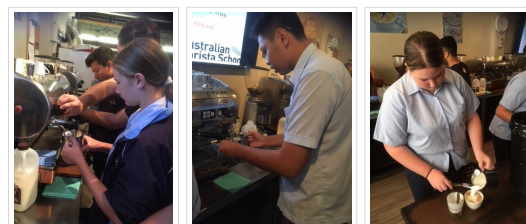
Support classes have also been productive in Technologies. The Red and White classes have created personalised timber name plates, beaded rings and decorated pencil boxes, while the Purple and Blue classes have designed and sewn cushion covers, decorated photo frames and constructed wooden toy trains.



Yr 9 Food Technology students have demonstrated excellent cake decorating skills with their celebration cakes and have shown an understanding of the many factors to consider when planning large celebrations. They ended their Food for Special Occasions unit with a tour of Sydney Tower where they not only enjoyed the views but the wonderful array of food from the buffet menu.



Many of the Year 9 students also enjoyed a barista training course and achieved a nationally accredited certificate. The school, in conjunction with the Support Unit, has purchased a coffee machine for students, including our support students to practise making hot beverages such as hot chocolate. The machine will help benefit students looking for part time employment in hospitality. Coffee will not be supplied to students but parents can benefit by purchasing a coffee at school functions.



Sydney Tower Excursion | Thursday, 3rd May 2018

Year 9 Food Technology students along with Mr Miller and Miss Testa went into the city to experience the fine dining of the Sydney Tower Buffet. We were taken on a tour of the kitchen's function room and we also learnt the history of the building.

The buffet consisted of a diverse range of multicultural foods, giving us a taste of cultures from around the world. There were foods that we wouldn't normally eat, such as kangaroo and emu, but were showcased in such an appetising way we all wanted a taste. While eating lunch, we were surrounded by the beautiful city of Sydney, with 360 rotational views.

Overall, it was a great day. It gave us behind the scene knowledge of what it is like to be in a commercial kitchen and run a fine dining restaurant with such a high volume of customers, many of which are international visitors! We would like to thank Miss Testa and Mr Miller for taking us on this eye-opening experience and to the food technology faculty for organising this excursion for us.

Cooper Appleby & Tayanytah Iverach

Ms Rosalie Gualtieri
Head Teacher TAS

Debating

During Term One, the Year 7 and 9 Debating teams travelled to Lugarno Public School to facilitate a Training Day for our partner primary schools. Students designed and delivered engaging presentations that outlined the key skills required for successful participation in formal debating competitions.

The students explored the roles and responsibilities of individual speakers, effective oral communication and critical thinking skills. In addition, students participated in a mock-debate designed to illustrate the aforementioned concepts in a light-hearted and entertaining manner. Each student should be congratulated on their efforts in promoting learning in their community.



GRC Peakhurst students participating in a mock-debate

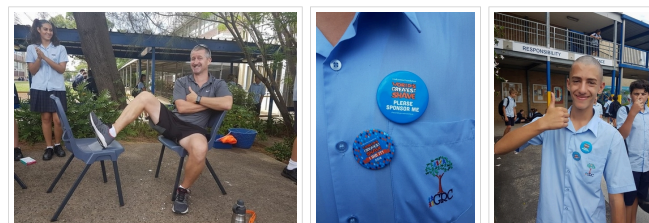
Ms L. Osmond, Ms L. Dunstan and Mr P. Fisher
Debating Coordinators

SRC

Welcome back to a busy Term 2!

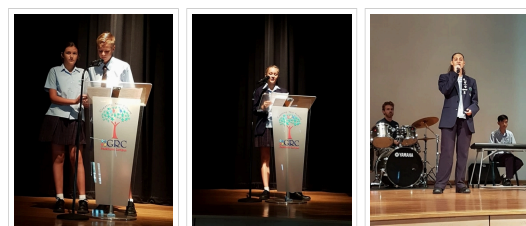
Student leaders have been incredibly busy so it is difficult to know even where to begin. I am very blessed to be working with each and every one of them. I am impressed each day at their amazing initiative, emerging confidence and passion for our school.

Last term our major fundraiser supported the Leukaemia Foundation by SRC holding Crazy Hair Day and World's Greatest Shave. As a school we raised \$3622, so a huge thank you to everyone who participated. Special thanks goes to Mr Fisher, Mr Miller and Mr Morley who volunteered to get their legs waxed, along with Miss Leeke who donated her time to shave Matthew S' and Peter K's heads on the day. The boys did some outstanding fundraising online as well – which has taken our total up to an incredible amount! Please see below for some photos from the day. Thank you to our entire school community for ensuring these events are such a success.



Last term, we also officially inducted our Year 8 - 10 SRC members at a formal assembly, where some students also spoke to commemorate International Women's Day. They also participated in our annual Training Day as well as presented at a staff meeting in Term 1, discussing their ideas and vision for our school community.

Congratulations to all students who continue to lead and inspire our school community.



Our Leadership by the River team continues into 2018, with some new Year 9 members joining.

Leadership by the River

GRC Peakhurst is participating in a newly founded program named 'Leadership by the River'. This program will develop the leaders within our school. This program will be run throughout the year but GRC Peakhurst will be attending three events. One was held in February, another held in March and the last one will be held in November. GRC Peakhurst will also be working on a project of its own in-between these events. Our projects will be environmentally based and well-being based, more details about these events will be told throughout the year.

In mid-February, eight selected members of the SRC were chosen to represent our school in the Leadership by the River program. Students travelled to Hurstville Boys with Miss Osmond where we participated in activities with numerous schools from the Georges River area. The aim of the new program founded by Hurstville Boys principal and the Hurstville Grove infant school is to develop stronger leaders for the future generations as well as creating connections between high schools and primary schools. We spent the day engaging in fun activities to get to know other schools as well as creating a stronger team within our school. Throughout the day, we began brainstorming about the basis of the project we will be doing. As a team, we decided we would take an environmental

approach to our task. This task will not only help the school to become more environmentally friendly, it will also help GRC Peakhurst to develop our knowledge of what it means to be kind to the environment, and the impact we have on it. After we finished a 2-hour day at Hurstville Boys, we returned to school to develop and define our project. It was a fine, yet educational day enjoyed by all.



Chosen members of the SRC attended the conference 'Leadership by the River', with 32 other public schools apart of the Georges River network on Thursday 29 March. The premise of the conference was to build relations with other primary and high schools within the network, to work with one another on projects to benefit their own and our school. The team also presented their ideas to Mr Vallis in order to gain approval for the directions their projects are taking, as well as further enhancing their public speaking and leadership skills by presenting in this formal manner. Special mention must go to Valandou C and Cooper A who were the MCs of the conference and spoke so professionally on the day, as well as Katerina P who gave the Acknowledgement of Country.



The GRC Peakhurst Team consists of:

- Peaky Goes Green: Samantha B, Christopher F, Chloe D and Brianna C
- Peaky Spreads Positivity: Valandou C, Tayanytah I, Cooper A and Katerina P

We hope to inspire future generations of this school to continue with this program and our projects to make GRC Peakhurst a more leadership, well-being driven school and a more environmentally aware school.

Finally, it was also my great honour to announce our Year 7 Representatives on the last day of Term 1. These students will be officially induced into the SRC at our Week 6 assembly this term, on Friday 8 June. Please congratulate the following students:

Teiya A-J
Cameron A
Olivia B
Stefan K
Mariane K
Chloe S
Isaia T

Coming events-

Term 2 events – See the SRC representatives in your year group if you have any ideas/performance items for your year assemblies.

**School and Vice Captains Leadership Conference –
Prairiewood High School – Friday 25 May**

'The Magic Lamp' Performance Day – Friday, 25 May

**World Vision Young Leaders Conference – Tuesday,
29 May**

Year 9 Leadership Excursion – Tuesday, 5 June

**Mental Health Public Speaking Challenge – Tuesday,
5 June**

**Year 7 Induction into SRC at Formal Assembly –
Friday, 8 June**

Year Meetings – Friday, 29 June for all Year Groups

As always, if you have suggestions or queries about SRC, please do not hesitate to consult your peer student leaders or myself in the English staffroom.

Have a great Term 2!

Ms Lauren Osmond
SRC Coordinator

NAPLAN TIMETABLE

Tuesday 15 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Conventions • Writing 	Period 1 - 2	Year 9
		Period 3 - 4	Year 7
Wednesday 16 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading 	Period 1	Year 9
		Period 3	Year 7
Thursday 17 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeracy Calculator • Numeracy Non-Calculator 	Period 1	Year 9
		Period 3	Year 7
Friday 18 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catch-up Day 	Both years and all tests, as required.	

All Year 9 students need to ensure they are at school by 8.30am on all exam days.

A letter informing parents about the upcoming NAPLAN TESTS was sent out with your child last term. Your child has been prepared at school for these tests.

Assist your child by ensuring that he/she

- brings a 2B or HB pencil and a black ballpoint pen.
- brings an eraser and pencil sharpener with shavings catcher.
- brings a working calculator on Thursday, 16 May.
- has had a sustainable breakfast on the morning of the test, and Year 7 students have a decent snack for recess. Avoid anything sugary or artificial as this can lead to a lack of concentration.

- is not over tired for the tests and has had at least eight hours rest each night.
- has your support and encouragement to attain realistic goals.

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.

The Well-being Team consists of the Principal, Deputy Principals, 4 Year Advisors, School Counsellors, Student Well-being Committee Coordinator, SRC Coordinator, Girls Supervisor and Careers Teacher.

As a group, the Well-being Team meets regularly to discuss students, review attendance and proactively plan strategies and programs in which to better support student wellbeing in all areas. The Student Well-being Team is responsible, along with all members of staff, to ensure that student wellbeing is a high priority within Georges River College Peakhurst Campus. The Student Well-being Team proactively engages with all students individually, in small groups or in year groups to actively promote cognitive, emotional, social, physical and spiritual wellbeing. Students may work with the Year Advisor, Classroom Teachers, Head Teachers the Deputy Principal, the school counsellor or other agencies where appropriate.

The GRC Peakhurst Well-being Team creates and delivers exciting programs and initiatives that provide students with opportunities in leadership, mentoring, public speaking, increasing their self-esteem and many other self-awareness activities.

These include programs such as:

- The Strength Program
- The Shine Program
- The Switch Program
- Own It Program
- Love Bites Program
- The Menai Youth Project Program
- The Pathfinders Program (Year 6 Transition)
- Peer Support
- Peer Tutoring
- Suicide Awareness Program
- Domestic Violence Prevention and Awareness Program
- Talk about it Program

- Headspace Program
- Fundraising for Stewart House
- Year 10 Orientation Program
- White Ribbon Day
- Harmony Day
- PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) Student Forum
- Student Wellbeing Committee
- YAP Days (Year Advisor Program Days)
- Year Assemblies
- Rewards Morning Teas
- Rewards excursions

A number of important programs and activities took place at the end of Term 1, maintaining our focus on Student Well-being.

On 20 March, Year 10 students participated in the 'Wired' incursion by Brainstorm Productions. The 'Wired' Production utilised educational theatre to address student mental health and emotional wellbeing, including the physiology, causes and effects of stress, anxiety and depression.

On Tuesday 9 April, all Year groups participated in a one hour information session coordinated by NSW Police Youth Liaison Officers about cyber safety.

This session was followed up for Year 8 students on Thursday 3 May when they participated in 'Cyberia' – an investigation into the pitfalls of technology including cyber bullying at school, stress, lack of privacy and de-sensitisation.

Year 9 and 10 will be attending an incursion on Monday 4 June in the school hall to listen to a motivational speaker – Luke Kennedy. Luke will speak about a variety of issues and topics affecting our youth, including resilience, anti-bullying, mental health / self-care, drugs and alcohol, transformation and transitioning, gaining confidence / reducing stress and how to be happy. Year 9 and 10 students have been provided with a note outlining this incursion.

Year 9 will be participating in a drama incursion on Friday 8 June - 'Cheap Thrills' in the school hall. The play explores issues of risky behaviour and the dangers of substance abuse. It aims to provide strategies and awareness for choices made, issues and consequences associated with the topic.

Selected Year 8 and 9 students completed the Own It program at the end of last Term – a program we run in partnership with 3 Bridges Community – Hurstville. The program allowed participants to explore and challenge themselves to be leaders. The program helped empower students to take responsibility for their behaviours, life choices, life circumstances and provided opportunities for them to further develop leadership skills.

Selected Year 10 students commenced the Love Bites program with youth workers from Riverwood Community Centre on Wednesday 9 May. This program will run once a week for the next ten weeks to equip students with the knowledge needed to have respectful relationships, encourage and develop their critical thinking skills and assist them in being able to problem solve and communicate effectively.

PBL - 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. Congratulations to the following students who were successful in the draw and have each received a \$20 gift card.

Year 7 – Chloe M / Ahmed K

Year 8 – Eryn T / Christian T

Year 9 – Aidan H / Imran S

Year 10 – Chris F / Christina E

Mr Scott Wilson
Deputy Principal

Student Well-being Committee Report

The Student Well-being Committee plays a pivotal role in our school community, providing students with an open forum to discuss pertinent social justice and individual well-being issues in a safe and nurturing environment. This group implements varied initiatives to promote individual and collective actions that adhere to our main school values.

This month, students developed anti-chewing gum posters that function as visual reminders of a key school rule. In addition, they continue to present at formal assemblies, as demonstrated by their Harmony Day speeches that discussed racism and inclusivity. Students have been liaising with their peers in order to gain insight into their opinions and perspectives.

Miss Osmond and Miss Picone will be taking over the role for the remainder of the year and we all wish Miss Walton an enjoyable maternity leave.

Miss Osmond and Miss Picone
Relieving Wellbeing Coordinators

Gifted and Talented Education News

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus is an educational community that celebrates varied forms of student giftedness through the provision of diverse extra-curricular activities. These initiatives foster student development by exploring subject-specific skills in exciting, individual and team-based programs. Over the past month, students have participated in sporting, academic and social-justice events designed to facilitate ongoing student development and achievement.

Specifically, students have been involved in the School Spectacular, Premier's Reading Challenge, Premier's Debating Challenge and Faculty Excursions. All students are encouraged to listen attentively to announcements made during morning assemblies in order to learn about new and exciting learning opportunities. All students are gifted and are encouraged to extend themselves through involvement in these programs.

Mr Patrick Fisher
Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator

Primary Links

There have been various initiatives undertaken in faculties linking GRC Peakhurst to the feeder primary schools in the area. We would like to touch on the great work displayed by our CAPA Faculty and the GRC Peakhurst Visual Arts students in the creation of a mural involving students from Lugarno Public School. The mural will be displayed in the Lugarno PS playground.

The school debaters have also been busy facilitating a workshop with several of the primary schools and hosted by Lugarno Public School, to help mentor their debaters. The workshop involved students passing on their skills, specifically in the areas of preparation, arguments and rebuttals before chairing a mock debate between the groups. Thanks to Mr Fisher, Miss Osmond and Miss Dunstan in coordinating this workshop and to our enthusiastic debating students for their efforts and maturity on the day.

Furthermore, on Tuesday 3 April, GRC Peakhurst hosted Peakhurst West Primary School in an Activity Gala Day. The day was used as an Event Management assessment for the Year 10 PASS elective students. They were responsible for co-ordinating the different groups from Peakhurst West as well as coaching the primary students during their activities throughout the day. The students from Peakhurst West thoroughly enjoyed the day and Mr Miller, Mr Haydar and Miss Yates would like to thank the PASS students for showing fantastic enthusiasm and encouragement throughout the event.

Ms Stephanie Yates and Ms Giulia Testa
Primary Links Coordinators

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.

Teiya A J
Mubtasim A
Maili L
Dion V
All Open Night student helpers

From the Administration Office

Online School Payments

Payments for most school activities can be made online via the school website by selecting [\\$ Make a Payment](#). Please make sure when making a payment via this method to enter:

- The student's name

- Class and reference number

Or

The student's name and date of birth

More information is on the attached sheet with this newsletter.
(Click on the link below)

Responding to an absence via SMS

Should you receive a text message from the school advising the lateness/absence of your child, you may respond directly back to the text or phone the school administration office with an explanation. If responding in this manner it will then not be necessary to forward an absence note when your child returns to school.

Please note: do not return a phone call to that SMS number as any voicemail messages left cannot be retrieved.

Ms Carmel O'Shea
Staff Administration Manager

From the P & C

The P&C would like to thank everyone who supported the Friday 13th Movie night. It was a great night, everyone had lots of fun and we raised \$720. A BIG thank you to Sanders Noonan Lugarno and Club Rivers who generously sponsored the event. Thank you to Woolworths Mortdale and Coles Roselands donated some vouchers to purchase BBQ items.

Special mention must also go to Mrs Rystrand, the Office Staff, Mr Vallis, Ms Osborne, Ms Holmes, Mr Reidy and Ms Haydar, Kate Bricknell (for her fantastic graphic design skills), Harrison B (for helping to set up), Bailey R for volunteering to help not only set up but also pack up at the end. Also, an immense thank you to all of the parent volunteers who helped prior to and on the night. Your help was greatly appreciated.



Learning Enhancement Centre

In all schools, there will be students who may experience difficulties with learning. These difficulties may vary in cause, nature, intensity and duration. At Georges River College Peakhurst Campus, the Learning Enhancement Team plays a key role in ensuring that the specific learning needs of all students experiencing difficulties are met.

Head Space

Is your child going through a tough time? When you are worried about your child, it can be difficult to know whether they are going through normal ups and downs related to being a young person, or if a mental health concern is developing. The key is

getting help early. If your child doesn't seem like themselves, Headspace Hurstville can help. Headspace is a youth friendly community service providing free support for young people aged 12-25 going through a difficult time. Headspace provides help with mental health and wellbeing, general health, alcohol and other drugs, and work and study support. Call Headspace Hurstville on 8048 3350 to enquire or visit the link below.

<https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/Hurstville>