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28 June 2019

From the Principal

This term has been highlighted by the continuous and ongoing assessment of student learning as we lead into the Semester 1 reporting for all students. The various modes of formal and informal assessment tasks is an opportunity for all students to demonstrate their learning and understanding of the learning experiences that have taken place in the respective classrooms. The emphasis in evaluating and assessing student performance is not about “being the best” but “in doing your best” and being resilient when attempting to engage and succeed in a multitude of learning tasks.

Student reports will highlight student achievement in every subject using the A - E grade scale. The grade for each course will be supplemented by the overall grade distribution within each course. The grade will determine the standard achieved during the reporting period. The standard achieved in each course is determined by matching a set of performance descriptors against the course learning outcomes. The course learning outcomes determines the standard of knowledge and understanding demonstrated by the student during the reporting period. It is also very important to analyse the personal learning profile of the student for each course within the report. Usually, there is a very strong correlation between the standard achieved and the learning characteristics displayed by the student within the classroom. Learning characteristics that will assist in enhancing student achievements include: ability to work independently, being a cooperative learner, completing all set tasks, being well prepared and organised, being respectful and responsible at all times, managing time efficiently and always working to achieve a “personal best”.

It is imperative that students prepare for all classes every single day. Effective preparation involves being organised, managing time effectively and doing extra work in terms of research and summarising of all class work. Teachers continue to support, provide constructive feedback and advise students in their preparations for all ongoing classroom assessments. The

school also provides the Homework Centre, every Tuesday between 3:00 – 4:00pm and Wednesday between 2:30 – 3:30pm, to assist students with assignments and preparations for assessments. It is highly advisable for all students to utilise these valuable resources.

Personal success is achieved through sustained focus and extensive preparation!

It is very important for parents and carers to discuss student learning and achievement with respective teachers. Parent/Teacher conferences are an ideal opportunity for parents/carers and teachers to discuss possible strategies to assist students in reaching their potential. Teachers and parents/carers are partners in providing the best strategies and opportunities to support students in their learning.

When approaching Parent / Teacher conferences, it is very important to remember that both the stakeholders are partners in the student's learning. Everyone needs to be positive and work towards developing an agreed plan on how to best manage the implementation of strategies that will assist in developing student learning. Establishing plans for communication is essential. It is also very important to ensure the management of issues causing concern for the student are addressed together at all times. At the conclusion of the conference, it is vital that the outcomes of the meetings are discussed with the student and the student is congratulated on the strengths and positives achieved during the reporting period.

The strength and quality of a question will assist in determining the quality of the information derived. Common questions at a Parent / Teacher conference could include:

- How is my child engaging in the classroom?
- What are students currently working on in class?
- Is there anything about my child's learning needs that I should know?
- Does my child ask questions and participate in class discussions / activities?
- How is my child progressing according to the course standards?
- What activities does my child enjoy most in class?

Who does my child work with and are the learning dynamics positive?
 What topics will be studied in class over the next term?
 Do you have any concerns about my child's learning within the classroom?
 Can you tell me the best time and way of contacting you if I have a query or concern about my child's learning?

The above questions are simply examples to stimulate conversation about a student's learning within the classroom. Information derived from the above questions will develop a common understanding on how to best work together in supporting and assisting the student in their learning.

I am looking forward to meeting everyone at our upcoming Parent / Teacher evenings at the end of term 2 (Monday 23rd July 2019 for years 7 & 10) and the beginning of term 3 (Tuesday 30th July 2019 for years 8 & 9).

HSC Minimum Standards for All Year 10 Students

What is the HSC minimum standard?

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has implemented the HSC minimum standard to help ensure that students have the key literacy and numeracy skills for life after school. Students in New South Wales will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC credential from 2020. The HSC minimum standard is set at level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). These skills are essential for everyday tasks and learning after school such as writing a letter for a job application or understanding a mobile phone plan. The standard is assessed through online tests across three areas: reading, writing and numeracy. The minimum standard online tests are 45 minutes long and include a multiple choice reading test, a multiple choice numeracy test and a short writing test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt. Examples of the tests are available on the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website. Students who do not meet the HSC minimum standard can still

- Sit the HSC exams.
- Receive an ATAR for University applications
- Receive a ROSA
- Receive a HSC minimum standard report.

There are no pre-requisites for choosing subjects for stage 5 or stage 6. Students do not need to achieve the minimum standard to choose a subject they will study in stage 5 or 6.

Practice tests are available for students to sit at school to help them become familiar with the online test structure and for schools to help determine student readiness to meet the minimum standard.

Students will have two opportunities per year to sit the minimum standard online tests in each area of Reading, Numeracy and Writing, in Year 10, 11 and 12. Students will also have up to 5 years from the time they start the HSC courses to sit the minimum standard online tests. The tests must be administered by schools via a lockdown browser.

Disability provisions and exemptions: Students with additional learning needs may be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests or be exempt from meeting

the HSC minimum standard in order to receive their HSC. Students taking four or more Life Skills courses can be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard. Students studying Life Skills English will be exempt from the Reading and Writing minimum standard tests. Students studying Life Skills maths will be exempt from the Numeracy minimum standard test.

Further Information is available at the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website below.

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard>



Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Terry Vallis

Principal GRC Peakhurst Campus

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Mr Terry Vallis
Principal

Deputies' Report

It has been a productive time this semester with students busily working through course work and related assessment tasks to provide their teachers with work samples for assessment and reporting processes. Staff have recently been collating all of this information for your child's Semester One Report. Reports for Years 7 + 10 will be issued by the end of Week 9 of Term 2, while reports for Years 8 + 9 will be issued by the end of Week 1 of Term 3. An SMS notification will be sent on the day of report distribution for your reference.

Our reports will look slightly different this year. The course outcomes and personal profile will indicate how your child has performed with Term 1 and 2 assessment tasks. The comment will provide suggested actions for your child to further consolidate or improve their progress and achievement in each course. For further information and feedback related to any of these areas, parents and carers are invited to join us for the Parent Teacher Evening. The **Years 7 + 10 Parent Teacher**

Evening will be held on **Monday 1st July from 4:00 pm to 7:00pm** in the school hall. Bookings for interviews need to be made by visiting the link below and entering the code sent via SMS before Sunday 30th June at 9:00pm. The **Years 8 + 9 Parent Teacher Evening** will be held on **Monday 30th July from 4:00 pm to 7:00pm** in the school hall. Details on how to book will be issued early next term.

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

As students get ready to begin a new semester of learning, it is a timely reminder of our online study skills program as a support resource. A direct link to the site and our school password can be easily located on the Sentral Parent Portal. The site has great tips like those posted below and many other resources suitable for students of all ages and year groups

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

As a school we are also preparing for 2020 with Subject Selection Information Evenings. The Year 10 transition to GRC Oatley is well underway. Students have already had several visits to Oatley during May for subject information sessions and a course taster program. Students and parents attended the HSC Subject information Evening on Monday 24th June where a range of important information was discussed about the HSC and the subject selection process. Students who attended on the evening received their Oatley subject selection folder which contained valuable information on a huge range of subjects offered at the senior campus along with enrolment information. The Careers Advisor at GRC Peakhurst – Mrs Toni Arfanis and the Principal – Mr Vallis will be conducting a subject selection interview with all Year 10 students between now and the 5th August. Students will be required to have all subject selection and enrolment forms completed and handed in to Mrs Arfanis by Tuesday 6th August. For Year 8 students moving in to Stage 5 Years 9 studies in 2020, a Subject Selection Information evening for elective subjects will be held in the school hall on **13th August 6:00 – 7:00pm**. Further information and details regarding the process for subject selection will be shared early term 3.

In early Term 3 (Monday 29th July), all Year 7 students will be participating in a Study Skills session developed and delivered by Elevate Education. The seminar will break down the transition process into secondary education, introducing students to the fundamental skills that they need to be using over the coming years. The session will focus on:

- how to read a text and pull out the key points.
- how to get the ideas extracted from readings into organised sets of notes that will facilitate effective learning.
- how to break down information into its relevant parts as opposed to simply rote learning material.
- independent learning

The Year 7 Seminar will be followed by a session for interested Yr 7 Parents on Tuesday 6th August (7pm – 8pm in the school hall). The parent session will provide parents with an overview of the seminar that their child participated in to share best practices for reinforcing these skills at home.

Further information about the student and parent sessions will be sent home shortly.

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR JUNE: IMPROVING TYPING AND HANDWRITING SKILLS

So you don't have much homework tonight? Assignments and study notes up to date? Have you ever thought about spending a bit of time each night learning touch typing?

Touch Typing is when you can type without looking at the keys while you type. This means you can type much faster than if you had to look and see where each key is, and it means you can keep looking at whatever it is you are typing instead of the keys. This is an incredibly useful skill to develop – it will help you at school and later in life as well, improving your efficiency and speeding up work on assignments and essays. Once you learn touch typing, you will know where the keys are located on the keyboard through your sense of touch and you will be able to look at the screen or whatever you are typing rather than the keyboard.

On www.studyskillshandbook.com.au there is a section to get you started on your journey of learning touch typing. Click on unit Technology Tools and on the Learning Touch Typing page you will find links to lots of free software to help you develop your touch typing skills as well as some great tips to get you started. There is also a discount voucher to the professional TypeQuick course. Being able to touch type will definitely make life easier for the students in the senior years and beyond. 10 minutes practice a day could end up making a big difference.

But don't neglect your handwriting skills either. As long as you have to submit handwritten work or handwrite for tests and exams it is also important to improve the legibility and speed of your handwriting. Go to the link below and visit the Writing Skills unit and click on the Improving Handwriting section. You'll find some excellent strategies for improving your handwriting as well as some special pens that can assist you with this.

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

Should students type or handwrite their study notes?

Short answer, they are better off doing whatever the exam or test will be. So if the exam is handwritten, it is better to handwrite notes. This creates muscle memory, it sets up a pattern in the brain of what they will be doing in the exam. If they do not have exams, then it does not really matter, they can choose to either type or handwrite their notes.

For students who do have written exams, they are better off getting used to writing as much as possible, especially as students do less and less pen to paper and more and more on the keyboard. It is also argued that by writing the information, you set up pathways of familiarity and recognition in your brain that will kick in when you are in an examination situation.

On the other hand, some subjects have so much content that to try and wade through it with handwritten study notes would take forever. A good compromise for students who would prefer to type is to start making initial notes on the computer as this allows you to cut and paste, group information and rearrange it with ease. Once you have a core set of notes

completed, you may like to further summarise some sections on paper using a more graphical or visual form of note-taking such as mind-mapping. And when you are learning the notes, read a section, then see what you can write without looking, this way you will be testing if the information is in long-term memory and practicing your handwriting at the same time!

Given that students now have to be masters of both the pen and the keyboard it is important to develop both legible handwriting and touch typing skills. When exams all go to typing at some stage, which they will inevitably do, everything will change.

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

- Creating healthy digital habits in kids
- Helping kids tolerate discomfort
- Encouraging healthy attitudes towards women

Wishing all of our GRC Peakhurst families a safe and restful term break. We look forward to continue working with you all for Semester Two!

Mr Scott Wilson
Deputy Principal – Year
9 & 10

Ms Kim Osborne
Deputy Principal - Year
7 & 8

parenting*ideas

insights

Creating healthy digital habits in kids

by Martine Ogilthorpe

TECHNOLOGY AND PARENTING



Surveys have consistently shown that children have been exposed to rising amounts of screen time in recent years, as well as parents struggling to manage the moods and time demands of children and young people.

As kids spend increasing amounts of time tethered to a digital device, it makes sense that the time they are online, is time well spent. As parents we're often concerned about the connections children and young people are making and the subsequent impact on their wellbeing. We're often concerned about the content they're consuming, and how helpful, relevant and safe it is for them. Rightfully, there's concern that the time spent online, scrolling, searching and swiping, may well be time better spent on other pursuits.

Obviously, these digital devices won't be going anywhere fast. So, we need to look at how we remain in control of our screen use, and ensure the time we're investing online is adding something helpful, positive and meaningful to our lives.

Here are a few tips to help you be more intentional with your scrolling. Being mindful of how time spent on devices, is certainly not just reserved for young people.

Encourage creation not just consumption

Here's a simple question. Are you more of a consumer or creator when you're online? When you spend your online time in creative mode such as making things, creating own videos, editing photos, writing blogs, coding a video game or composing a song you are getting something tangible in return for the time spent on a screen. You are achieving and creating something, rather than simply consuming the content made by others, which is generally far more satisfying as a user.

Look at who you are following

Consider the real purpose of the people on your feeds. Are you following celebrities you can never relate to, companies you would never buy from, or people who bring you down rather than teach or inspire you? Ideally, you'll follow people and companies that you can connect with and add positively to your life.

So what about your child? If they have a passion for something, help them find suitable people to follow. For instance, if they love space, search for NASA and related accounts. If they love photography, help them find great photographers sharing their work online. When they're following people that teach, inspire and ignite their passions, they're less likely to spend valuable time with energy zappers.

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insights

Helping kids tolerate discomfort

by Michael Grose

POSITIVE PARENTING



Few right-minded people want children or young people to experience hardships or difficulty. However growing up generally means that kids will experience their fair share of hardships, frustrations and challenges which lead to uncomfortable feelings.

Exercising their discomfort muscles

Tolerating discomfort is an important resilience skill. It refers to an ability to sit with an uncomfortable or emotionally painful feeling such as disappointment, apprehension, nervousness or fear. These emotions can be brought about as a result of not being picked for a team; getting lower than expected marks for an assignment; or going into new, unfamiliar situation such as school camp. These are the sorts of every day situations that can make some kids feel uncomfortable. It's helpful to think of discomfort as a 'muscle' that gets stronger with training. Each time a child or teen successfully tolerates discomfort they're reinforcing their ability to do so and cementing the knowledge that they can overcome emotional challenges.

Opportunities to practise tolerating discomfort

Opportunities for practice are plentiful and are found in common situations such as when a child or teen is: feeling hungry; wanting something they can't have; having to end screen time; contributing to household chores when they don't feel like it; missing out on a job interview; asking someone on a date or not receiving a party invitation.

It's not toughing it out

Tolerating discomfort doesn't mean toughing out an unbearable situation. It's teaching your anxious child to notice how they're feeling, naming their emotions, and practising acceptance of difficult feelings as they occur. This is done in the knowledge that what they're experiencing is temporary and that they're lovingly supported by a warm and comforting adult. Couple tolerating discomfort with social rewards (such as words of praise or shared fun activity) for coping behaviours and you're helping to build their personal resilience.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World* and *Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.

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insights

Encouraging healthy attitudes towards women

by Dr Rosina McAlpine

POSITIVE PARENTING



Recent events and current statistics highlight that as a nation we have a serious problem when it comes to domestic violence. While there's no easy solution, together, we can do our part to stop violence against women. If you're a parent or guardian, you can play an important role. Disrespect towards girls can begin in childhood, and we can break the cycle when we teach our children to be respectful and caring right from the start.

As parents, we have three main jobs:

- First, to love our children and build a strong lifetime bond
- Second, to keep them safe from harm until they can do that for themselves
- Third, to teach them all the skills they need to thrive in life and to make a positive difference in the world

Life skills approach to raising children

So what life skills do children need to learn when it comes to the issue of preventing violence against girls and women? As parents, we can talk with our kids about:

- Behaving respectfully towards others
- Communicating their needs using words and without the need to hit, snatch or shout
- Managing their emotions and their behaviours so as not to 'fly off the handle'

Start the conversation about respect early

Start by responding to your child calmly when they are disrespectful to others. The following three-step communication approach can be used from early childhood through to teen years. Let's put it into practice.

If a boy is making fun of his sister or a female friend:

1. STOP: Respond calmly rather than react asking him to stop the teasing.
2. EMPATHISE: Invite your son to see the behaviour through the eyes of his sister. 'How do you think your sister/friend feels right now?'

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Year 7 Student Advisor Report

Another busy term is almost over and I would like to take this opportunity to commend our Year 7 cohort on their consistent effort and dedication to their studies throughout Semester One.

Earlier this term particular Year 7 students were chosen by their peers and teachers to represent our school as our Year 7 Student Representative Council (SRC). Congratulations to the following students:

- Leah D
- Kristine G
- Caitlin J
- Callum S
- Patric S
- Ahmed Y

A Year 7 Assembly was held in the hall on Friday, 21st of June 2019. This assembly allowed us the opportunity to recognise and congratulate all the hard work that Year 7 students have been doing both in and outside of the classroom. Mr Vallis, Mr Wilson and I were given the great pleasure of presenting many awards to our Year 7 students for excellence across all subject areas.

I would like to congratulate all students who received awards on their excellent achievement and encourage all students to keep up the good work.

Parent Teacher Interviews are taking place on **Monday, 1st July 2019**, in our school's hall from 4:00pm – 7:00pm. This is an excellent opportunity for parents and caregivers to discuss their child's progress, successes and potential areas for improvement. A massive thank you to our outstanding Year 7 SRC students who organised and ran the assembly for the first time!

Reminders:

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform to and from school. With the cold weather rapidly approaching, students and parents are reminded of the uniform expectations that are in place. Students are not permitted to wear non-school jumpers or hooded jackets.

Please ensure that if your child is absent that 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.

Homework Centre takes place every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon in our school library. Students are encouraged to attend to complete homework and assessment tasks. The library is monitored by staff, with light refreshments offered.

Students are reminded to come and see me in the TAS staffroom if they have any questions or concerns.

Thank you

Miss Giulia Testa
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Student Advisor Report

What an extremely busy term it has been! With holidays around the corner, term 2 is nearing to its end. Year 8 students are well into their assessment periods for all of their subjects. Just a reminder it is important for students to thoroughly prepare in preparation for upcoming assessment tasks and half yearly exams. If you were absent and have not yet caught up on any exam missed, remember to speak to your class teacher ASAP to organise a time to sit the exam.

'The Hurting Game' Performance

In the third week of this term, Year 8 viewed a drama performance by Brainstorm Productions titled **'The Hurting Game'**. The live performance investigated the pitfalls of technology, including cyber bullying, stress, lack of privacy and de-sensitisation. It mainly focused on the use of social media in young people's everyday lives and how technology and social media sites have become a catalyst for many young people to bully each other. The performance was delivered by two young actors who were able to engage the audience in a scripted social media/cyber bullying presentation.

I would like to congratulate all of those students who attended the performance on their fantastic behavior and I hope that each student took something valuable away from it.

Year Assembly

Coming up in Week 8 of this term, we will be holding our first Year Assembly for the year. It is a chance to not only showcase the talents of many of our Year 8 students but allow us to recognise the wonderful achievements of our students across various areas of school life. I look forward to rewarding the hard work put in by our Year 8 students.

Uniform

Finally, as the weather continues to stay cool, I would like to remind students to wear the correct uniform, including the school jumper or jacket only, to keep warm. Students who are out of uniform must report to the hall at recess and lunch. If you child is out of uniform, please write them a note explaining the individual circumstances.

Homework Centre

Staff will continue to work closely with students during Homework Centre on Tuesday afternoons from 3.15pm – 4.15pm and Wednesday afternoons from 2.30pm – 3.30pm. Students will be provided with light refreshments and will be given access to an abundance of resources, including the computers. Students are simply required to turn up to the library on the days they require extra assistance.

Merits

It is pleasing to see that many year 8 students have been receiving merits of late for outstanding achievements in class, as well as for being model citizens who abide by our school

values. Please encourage your child to place these merits into the boxes outside the Deputy Principal's office in D Block.

Finally, 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.

Enjoy a productive final few weeks of term.

Mr Aaron Morley
Year 8 Student Advisor

Year 9 Student Advisor Report

Year Assembly

We are holding a Year 9 Assembly in the hall on Friday, 21st of June 2019. This assembly presents us with the opportunity to recognise and congratulate all the hard work that Year 9 students have been displaying both in and outside of the classroom. Miss Osborne and I will be presenting many awards to our Year 9 students for excellence and many other qualities across all subject areas.

I would like to congratulate all students who received awards on their excellent achievements and encourage all students to keep up the good work. For the students who aren't presented with an award, hopefully this can be a motivator for semester 2 and an opportunity to further apply yourselves to your learning.

Uniform

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform to and from school. With the cold weather rapidly approaching, students and parents are reminded of the uniform expectations that are in place. Students are not permitted to wear non-school jumpers or hooded jackets. Black socks are not part of our school uniform either.

Please ensure that if your child is absent that 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 (missing an assessment task). 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.

Homework Centre takes place every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon in our school library. Students are encouraged to attend to complete homework and assessment tasks. The library is monitored by staff, with light refreshments offered.

Remember if you have any questions, queries or concerns, I am located in the PDHPE staffroom down in the hall.

Mr Ibrahim Haydar
Year 9 Student Advisor

Year 10 Student Advisor Report

This has been a very busy term for year 10. They have completed final assessment tasks for the first school report for Semester 1.

Parent teacher evening is scheduled for Monday 1st July 2019 and this is an opportunity for parents and caregivers to discuss their child's progress.

Students attended Oatley Taster course days in Week 5 and were exposed to subjects for the HSC course they had selected and participated in lessons for the day. It was a valuable experience for the students.

Subject Selection Information Night

Students are required to attend with their parents the Oatley Subject Selection Information night scheduled for 24th June at 7pm at Oatley Campus. Final choices and interviews for subject choices will take place in early term 3 with Mr Vallis and Ms Arfanis the Careers Advisor

Year Assembly

On Friday 21st June, a Year 10 assembly was held in the hall. This assembly gave us the opportunity to recognise all the good work that Year 10 students have been doing in and out of the classroom. With the help of Mr Wilson and Mr Vallis, I presented more than fifty Principal's Awards to many students. Congratulations to all those students on your fantastic achievements and keep up the great work. A huge thank you must go to our wonderful Year 10 SRC students who again organised and ran the assembly and always do an exceptional job.

Ms Alice Talevski
Year 10 Student Advisor

FACULTY NEWS

CAPA

Performing Arts Day- The Magic Lamp

Thursday the 13th of June was a day full of magic at GRC Peakhurst, with over ten weeks of hard work from our year 7 cohort, our CAPA staff and our event crew proudly being displayed in this year's production of "The Magic Lamp."

On the day, over two-hundred year 7 students showcased their skills across three types of theatre production: Drama, Stage Design and Dance, choreographed by Miss Reddy. The parade included peacocks, birds, giraffes, soldiers and white Persian monkeys, all marching and dancing to the theme song Prince Ali. Behind the scenes our school's event crew, our CAPA staff and our CAPA head teacher Ms Rydstrand, made the production possible for all students to enjoy.

Congratulations to year 7 and everyone who assisted in the completion of another successful production, and thank you to the parents who came to give their support on the day.



Ms Thankham Rydstrand Head Teacher CAPA

HSIE

In recent weeks Year 9 History has been developing their research, writing and empathy skills through the development of an empathy task based on an Australian soldier's experience in Gallipoli during World War One. Below is a poem written by Andrei E-, submitted as part of his task .

To my beloved wife,

C. Brown

A poem representing my arrival in Gallipoli:

*Damp, dark days, withdrawn of sun,
We've clothed to our faces, but tears still run.
It's been like that, from whence we came,
We hadn't known, it shall remain.
And every day, we shared our pain.*

*The focal, for whom we'd be,
Ended up being, Zaba Tepo.
But until we saw it, we didn't know,
So, before we left, we thought we'd cope.
And every day, we shared false hope.*

*0235, the nerves kicked in,
Some glad to get close, they couldn't swim.
0255, we approached the shore,
36 Boats with 28 Anzacs or more.
And every day, we shared time at war.*

*4 slow months in Egypt, sand was rather rough,
but it's only safe to say, that Gallipoli was tough.
For us we docked, unsigned,
Our knowledge of the peninsula, redefined.
And every day, we shared our cries.*

*A surging precipice, 600 metres wide,
Mount we'd need to, climb the side.
Upon disembarking, one bullet shot,
And so, began, the Turkish lot.
And every day, we shared our (soft) spot.*

*Many were hit, before feet touched sand,
But those with luck, rushed the land.
By now the beach was well alight,
From flares and beacons, so we couldn't sit tight
And every day, we shared our fearful nights.*

*3 of our ships, already hit by a mine,
As Half of 9th Battalion, headed for Lone Pine.
The rest soldiered on, though morale was now low,
Up Ari Burnu and toward Plugge's Plateau.
And every day, we shared our sorrow.*

*Others regrouped and reorganised,
While we ran and talked of our unpleasant surprise.
The medical team had already surplus jobs,
As the hospital ship Gascon, filled with wounded mobs.
And every day, we still share our sobs.
I wish to write more to you soon. For now, duty calls.
- Charles Brown, 9th battalion.*

Year 9 Geography have been learning about the sustainable use of natural resources. The pictures below were taken during a practical (and very tasty) student-led demonstration relating to mining.



Ms Hayley Diamond Head Teacher HSIE

Marine and Aquaculture Technology

As part of their studies in Marine and Aquaculture Technology this semester, Year 9 students have been working through a topic on Mangroves. The module was specifically designed to stress the ecological importance of the mangrove habitat that surrounds the campus of Georges River College, Peakhurst.

Students enrolled in Marine and Aquaculture Technology completed their second assessment, entitled "Respect the River Study" by conducting a firsthand investigation at the Lime Kiln Wetlands to assess the health of the Mangrove ecosystems, Peakhurst to assess the health of the Mangrove ecosystems.

Students were not only given insight to the historical uses of the Georges River estuary but also gained practical experience as an environmental scientist. Year 9 students demonstrated their applied skills by utilising a variety of scientific test kits

and equipment to measure mangrove pneumatophore height and sample environmental parameters such as temperature, ammonia, PH., salinity, nitrites, nitrates, and phosphates. Identification keys and scientific diagrams were also used to aid with classifying the two species of mangroves and the variety of living organisms that inhabit the Lime Kiln wetlands.

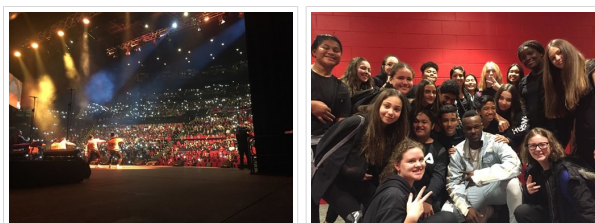
Students then related their findings to theoretical work covered in class on ecosystem threats such as salinity levels, pollutants and eutrophication to conclude their assessment.



Ahmad Bousaleh
Science, Marine and Aquaculture Technology
Teacher

Music

This Term has been a great adventure, with preparations for Peakform underway and most of all, our school choir singing at the Stand Tall event in Darling Harbour. Our singers had the pleasure of starting the day by meeting our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, then singing in front of a crowd, 1,000+ people strong and rounding up the day with a surprise concert from the one and only Timomatic, and a chance to meet the man himself backstage. Our next little adventure will be to the @The Corner café in Peakhurst, on Saturday 29th of July, for an intimate setting with some of our school's finest musicians. Stay tuned to our Facebook CAPA page for all our up to date events.



Mr Scott Paige
CAPA

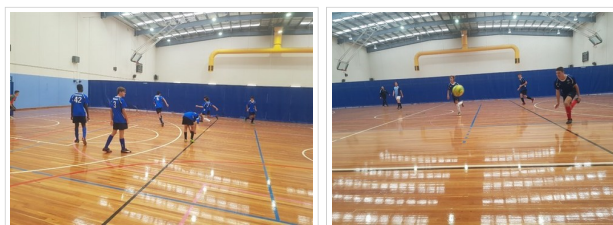
PDHPE

Futsal

On the 22nd & 23rd May a number of students represented GRC Peakhurst at the State Futsal Gala Day which was held at Sutherland 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. The standard of competition is always very high on occasions like this. A special congratulations must go to the boys U/14's team who were successful in progressing to the quarter-finals.

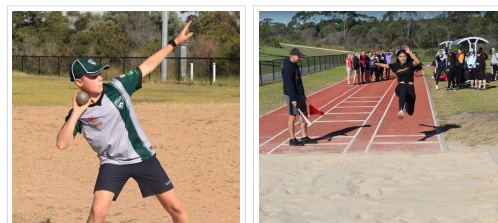
Well done on this achievement!

We look forward to entering this competition again next year.



Athletics Carnival

On the 24th May, GRC Peakhurst hosted our Athletics Carnival at Bardon Ridge Athletics Track in Menai. The carnival was an overwhelming success with the day's events being thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students. It was great to see our students dressed in their house colours and competing for points that would go towards their house tally. Participation rates were high, as students were given the opportunity to experience all events in a rotating tabloid format. Students are reminded to check the sports notice board in the coming week to see if they have qualified for the zone. Furthermore, we would like to congratulate the students who have progressed and will represent our school at the zone carnival on the 24th and 25th June.



The final house points have been tallied! The results for the 2019 Athletics Carnival were the closest point's tallies we have ever seen!

- 1st place** – Goodes
- 2nd Place** - McGrath
- 3rd place** - Freeman
- 4th place** - Beachley

Zone Cross Country Carnival

A big congratulations to all the students that competed at the Zone Athletics Carnival on 21st May at Scarborough Park, Kogarah. The sun was shining and it was a perfect day for our 50 competitors to run. Students from GRC Peakhurst are to be commended on their excellent behaviour that was consistently displayed throughout the day. Furthermore, we are also extremely proud to announce that our boys finished 2nd overall in the points standings, whilst the girls finished 7th overall respectively. An outstanding achievement for a 7-10 campus.

Special mention to our Regional qualifiers who competed on the 14th June at Miranda Park:

Ahmed Y, Alexia S, Anna W, Benjamin L, Caitlin J, Cameron F, Cameron J, Dylan M, Jack W, J B, Levi B, Natalie M, Riccardo S, Sebastian S, Shazmin B, Tia B, William M, Zachary N & Victoria G



PASS Camp reminder

MEDICAL CONSENT FORMS ARE NOW OVERDUE. Please ensure this form is returned to school as soon as possible so we can cater for any health/dietary requirements your child may have. As the camp is only a few months away, I would encourage any outstanding balances be paid off at your earliest convenience. If there are any problems regarding this matter, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Yates / Mrs Hill to discuss this matter further.

Mr Aaron Morley
PDHPE Teacher

Special Education

Welcome to half way through the school year!

This term, our Year 10 students have been busy participating in our Work Experience program. We are VERY proud of these students, who display the school motto of Respect, Responsibility and Aim for Excellence whilst representing our school in the community. Here's what the students have to say....

On Thursdays, Ben, Nicholas, Alex, Hrikesh, Mazen, Mathew, Maili, Daniel, Troy and Daniel K go to Coles at Hurstville for Work Experience. Work Experience teaches us skills like listening to instructions, completing jobs independently and learning to travel by bus. We enjoy this opportunity.

By Red Class

This term I have been going to Work Experience at Coles, Hurstville. I go on Thursday Week A. In the morning I come to school, walk to the bus stop to catch the 8:55 bus to go to Hurstville. The first thing we do when we get there is sign in. After that we go to the staffroom and put our bags down. We all choose an aisle and start tidying up the shelves. We have to move items to the front and the right way round, so the customers can read the labels. This is called 'face up'. Some of the other jobs we do are- collecting baskets, squashing boxes in the compactor and picking up rubbish left behind by customers. At about 12:30 we get our bags, sign out and go to the Food Court for lunch.

By ML

Just some reminders...

- Label student's clothing
- Check your child's communication book as these are our main line of communication
- Inform your child's driver if your child is going to be absent from school or there is a change to their morning/afternoon routine simultaneously let the Support Unit staff know.

- Learning Enhancement is also located in the Support staffroom. This team includes the LaSTs and SLSO's, including the SLSO's working with mainstream students.

Lastly, a huge SHOUT OUT and THANK YOU to **Oatley RSL** and **Club Rivers** for your generous donations and support for our Support Unit camp next term. **THANK YOU** from the students, families and staff!

Happy Learning

Ms Peta Holm
Head Teacher Special Education

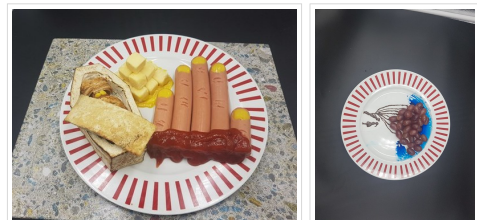
TAS

The TAS department have had a busy second term. We have purchased a light box for students to practice food photography. Look out for our wonderful student work on our Instagram page [grc_peakhurst_instafeed](#).

New rotations for Years 7 and 8 Technology are progressing well. Students undertaking textiles have made a zippered pencil case to practice sewing and decorating techniques. Soon they will be well underway of designing their cushions.

Our Year 7 Digital Technology class have progressed at an amazing rate to the Grok Learning Modules. The Year 7 food students soon will be growing micro herbs to use in their cooking.

Congratulations to our Year 9 Food Technology classes who have completed their second assessment task on Food Trends. Please see attached some examples of the phenomenal Food Art practical components completed by our talented students.



Year 10 Food technology have been studying the hospitality industry and have created school formal menus and have prepared and presented some appetising high tea foods.

Ms Rosalie Gualtieri
Head Teacher TAS

Careers

Skills and Thrills Careers Showcase for parents

Helping parents to assist their children in making informed decisions surrounding post school pathways

The Skills and Thrills careers showcase is an engaging, informative and entertaining showcase, created to highlight vocational education and training (VET) and the success stories that emanate from VET pathways. The Careers Showcase will help parents better understand vocational pathways including apprenticeships, traineeships and school-based apprenticeships and training, and give parents the knowledge

they need, to help their children make informed careers choices post high school.

Through the showcase, parents and students will learn about the following:

- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- TAFE/ Private Training Providers
- Funding options available (Smart and Skilled)
- In school options (SBATs)
- Where to find information
- Who can assist/resources available
- Opportunity to speak with parents and students who have chosen or whereby the child has chosen a VET pathway (Q&A).

The Skills and Thrills showcase will be held on **Wednesday, 24th July, 2019 at 7:00pm – 8:30pm** at Georges River College, PEAKHURST campus, Rona St., Peakhurst, NSW 2210, in the school hall.

All attendees must register (parents and students) via the online registration link, at the following link:

<https://georgesrivercollege.eventbrite.com.au/>

GRC, Peakhurst encourage you to attend with your high school aged children in Years 9, 10, 11 and/or 12. All community members are invited.

Subject Selection Preparation for Year 10 students is in full swing. All students undertook a minimum of two careers lessons with the Careers Adviser undertaking careers tools such as Career Voyage, Job Jump, Explored My Future and UAC's new Subject Compass. All students attended Oatley Campus for a Subject Information Day, early May, and this was backed up by lunchtime sessions for students who wished to ask questions about subjects with the Careers Adviser. This was followed by Oatley Campus Subject Taster Day at the end of May. Students were afforded the opportunity to sit in on regular classes for four subjects getting some insight in experiencing 80 minute periods, and possibly help evaluate its likeability. Students and parents will be required to attend a Subject Selection Information Night at Oatley campus on 24 June at 7pm, as well as a College and Curriculum Expo at Oatley Campus on 2 July at 4pm. The preparation will finish up with a meeting with Mr.Vallis or Ms.Arfanis, early July, to discuss student's subject pattern of study, for senior years.

GRC, Peakhurst Careers Website

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

<https://grcpeakhurstcareers.com/>

This site has a lot of interesting careers information for your perusal.

Torrens University

Torrens University is coming to GRC to present about the ATAR and non ATAR pathways on 24 June. Students interested in attending should speak to Ms.Arfanis and let her know.

Bedford College

Bedford College is coming to GRC to present on post school pathways options on 1 July. Students interested in attending should speak to Ms.Arfanis and let her know.

Interview Skills and Techniques workshop was successfully presented to all Year 10 students, in preparation for early entry university courses, first job or future jobs. A neat resource was given to each student which they can refer to when required.

Getting Your First Part Time Job, Your Rights, and Introduction to Resumes workshop was successfully presented to all Year 9 students, in preparation for their first jobs, handy hints on how to apply for jobs, understanding their work rights and preparing a resume. A neat resource was given to each student which they can refer to when required.

Explore Careers Fair held on Friday, 14th June at The Ivy Ballroom.

The companies attended included Accenture, Allianz, APA Group, Australian Unity, Qantas, Jetstar, Carlton and United Breweries, CIMIC Group, Cochlear, Coles, Defence Force Recruiting, Downer, EY, G8 Education, Glascott Landscaping, Fantastic Furniture, Guardian Early Learning, Hanson, Holcim, Jaybro, Junior Adventures Group, Lion, Macquarie, Mainfreight, Marsupial Landscaping, McDonalds, Medibank, Merivale, Only About Children, Opal Aged Care, PwC, Reece, Ruralco, SAS, Solotel, Sussan, Sportsgirl, Toll, Transdev, Watpac, Westpac, AHG just to name a few...

This was an extremely worthwhile event whereby students learnt about opportunities available to them across a variety of industries and businesses present. They heard about Christmas casual opportunities to work experience, apprenticeship/traineeships, early school leavers, immediate post-secondary, internships and graduate recruitment. They were also informed about business expansion and the variety of roles within specific businesses. Networking was a great way to meet employers at the explore career expo.

Barista Training

38 Year 9 & 10 students undertook the first stage of a two day Barista course. The Barista Course will run over 2 days. First day was theory based delivered here in the GRC library, 6th June. The second day is practical based and will be delivered at Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL. Thankfully, the course has been heavily discounted because GRC submitted and won a club grant to help subsidise the cost. Students are paying \$75 instead of \$150.

Health Expo

Excursion to Prairewood High School, for health industry related jobs will take place on 19/6/19.

EVET

EVET is externally delivered vocational education and training. Next term 8 students were offered and accepted to undertake a Certificate 1 in Business Services for Stage 5 (84450) at TAFE NSW Sydney Region, Ultimo campus for a Face to Face delivery by qualified trainers.

At the moment GRC has 2 students undertaking Certificate 1 in Hospitality for Stage 5 (89486) at TAFE NSW Sydney Region, Meadowbank, at Ryde campus for a Face to Face delivery by qualified trainers. These two young ladies are thoroughly enjoying their experience and whilst it is a trek to get to Ryde can be commended on not missing one day; and another student is undertaking Certificate 1 in Automotive for Stage 5 (89483) at TAFE NSW Sydney Region at Ultimo campus for a Face to Face delivery by qualified. He is also appreciating and gaining new skills related to working with cars.

YES taster courses – joint venture between TAFE and GRC, Peakhurst – Closed group; Managed by Peakhurst CA

Youth Engagement Strategy taster course in Introduction to Carpentry is underway delivered at St. George TAFE. Peakhurst campus students are joined by GRC, Hurstville and GRC, Penshurst students.

Other students undertaking taster courses include one for Introduction to Hair and Beauty at Ultimo TAFE and another undertaking an Introduction to Automotive at Ultimo TAFE.

These courses run once a week for a period of seven weeks. It gives the students an opportunity to learn about the industry and gauge whether it's something they wish to pursue as a future career.

Student emails sent by Careers Advisor

Don't miss out on interesting but also important information about careers news. Check emails regularly sent to you by Ms. Arfanis.

Ms Toni Arfanis
Careers Advisor

Debating and Public Speaking

On Wednesday 22nd May, GRC Peakhurst's Year 9/10 A/B debating teams participated in a pair of keenly contested debates against GRC Penshurst Girls. Students displayed highly-developed oral communication, critical thinking and teamwork skills to critically explore pertinent social issues. Students were asked to consider if 'All students from Year 10 to Year 12 should be required to have a part-time job'. Each participant demonstrated a sophisticated understanding of the topic's complexities, considering the impact this change would have on individual freedoms, the wider economy and students' preparedness for future social and vocational opportunities. Ultimately, GRC Peakhurst A/B teams were victorious in both debates, with the adjudicator commending students on their capacity to evaluate a contentious issue.

In addition, GRC Peakhurst Year 9/10 A and B teams participated in an internal debate on Wednesday 29th May, discussing whether, 'The breaking of election promises should trigger an election'. Students discussed the ethical responsibilities of politicians and the detrimental social impact of false promises. After careful consideration, the adjudicator awarded the debate to the GRC Peakhurst A team, citing their detailed model and nuanced argumentation.

We wish both teams good luck in their upcoming debates against St. George Girls High School.

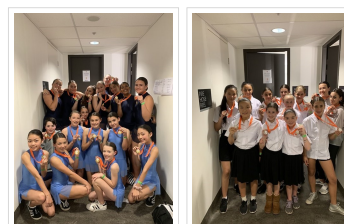
Ms Lauren Osmond, Ms Lauren Dunstan and Mr Patrick Fisher
Debating Coordinators

Dance

On Sunday the 16th of June 2019, 36 of our very talented dancers competed at the State Finals at the Concourse, in Chatswood. The students have demonstrated great dedication to very early morning rehearsals and have put in a lot of hard work! We are thrilled to share that our Dance Ensemble team placed second, scoring them a well-deserved silver medal and our Dance Company team placed first, getting them a gold medal and securing them a place at the Nationals Competition to represent the State. Nationals will be held in August, at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, in Queensland. A big congratulations to all the students who very proudly represented the school at State Finals over the weekend.

In other exciting news, our Dance Company has also been selected via audition process to feature in this year's "In the Spotlight, Ultimo Dance Festival" at the Seymour Centre. Our dancers will perform on the evening of Thursday 20th of June, 2019. They will be performing their item title, "The blind, leading the blind".

We wish all of our dancers luck for their upcoming performances.



Ms Ashteeeka Reddy
Dance Coordinator

Indigenous Education

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus is committed to and passionate about Aboriginal Education and provides a culturally inclusive learning environment, not only catering to their educational engagement but ensuring that a diverse curriculum and breathe of extra-curricular opportunities are availed to meet the cultural needs of our Aboriginal students.

During term 2 the students have been involved in gathering information for their Leadership by the River project which is to review and update the current Acknowledgment to Country. The updated content will be in partnerships with other GRC campuses with the final result being displayed across different locations within the school grounds.

Students are in the final planning stages for the excursion to Arnhem Land in late August. The team from Red Earth have now booked flights and our itinerary is looking very exciting, students involved in the immersion will be provided with a package this week where they will be provided with direct

access to their itineraries and a blog page where the students will add their daily activities and parents will be able to keep track of their child's adventures. Community members and parents have been assisting offering their support are Whitehorse Coffee and Grilled who have kindly donated coffee tokens and burger coins to help with fund raising.

NAIDOC week is fast approaching and the students are busy planning celebration activities for NAIDOC day. Allan McKenzie and Shannon Barnes-McKenzie from Boomali Consulting will be running art activities through the day and an artefact information session at the end of the day. It is shaping up to be a very exciting day.

The NAIDOC Theme 2019 Voice. Treaty. Truth.

These three key elements were the reforms set out in the Uluru Statement from the Heart. These reforms represent the unified position of First Nations Australians.

National NAIDOC Co-Chair Patricia Thompson says that for generations, Indigenous Australians have sought recognition of their unique place in Australian history and society today.

"For generations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have looked for significant and lasting change. We need our fellow Australians to join us on this journey – to finish the unfinished business of this country."

Patricia Thompson.

Ms Michelle Seignor

Aboriginal Educational Co-ordinator

SRC News

It has been an increasingly busy Term 2 and we are busily preparing for Leadership Camp in Term 3. Our student leaders have been involved in many initiatives that increase global awareness of issues and positively impact student learning and wellbeing here at school.

We recently welcomed our new Year 7 SRC Representatives and will formally induct them into the SRC in early Term 3. They were the successful representatives after receiving 27 applicants this year. Congratulations to the following students who are already making impressive contributions to our team:

Leah D
Kristine G
Caitlin J
Callum S
Patric S
Ahmed Y

Mental Health Public Speaking Challenge

Another important event on the public speaking and SRC calendar is the Mental Health Public Speaking challenge and the training day was held on Wednesday 5th of June, 2019. This is the day where the team received their topic. GRC Peakhurst has received impressive past success in this competition, achieving the Judge's Choice Award in 2018. We also received news that a two-minute segment of their speech is being presented at an international conference in Norway later this term – congratulations again to Valandou C (Year 11

at Oatley Campus), Tayanytah I (Year 10) and Chloe T (Year 9) who were the successful team last year.

Representatives from our team listened to a range of speakers who gave their insights into their personal experiences with mental health and students were made aware of the various services that are available to young people who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. They also networked with a range of other schools and were given their topics for the final of the challenge to be held later in the year. Our topic this year is:

"In what ways do our leaders (political and other) influence a culture of bullying? – Discuss positive and negative influences".

The team will be canvassing school opinion on this topic and welcome anyone's contribution on the subject to come and speak with them.



Altitude Day – Year 9 Leadership Excursion

Altitude Day is a leadership day, catering only to Year 9 students from around Australia. 13 Year 9 students attended this day on Tuesday 4th June, 2019. We played some games to get to know students from other schools and then listened to some keynote speakers.

One of the speakers from the day was Ben Pettingill. He is a blind world record holder who told us a story of losing his sight at the age of 16. This was from a rare disease that is not curable and while incredibly devastating, his story of empowerment and overcoming obstacles was important for us all to hear.

Another speaker was Rowie McEvoy. When Rowie was 13, she was bullied because of her weight and the kids at school created a survey on who liked her and who hated her. All the students said they did not like her and so she went home devastated and cried. So she decided to try and change that. Every day since then she has had a smile on her face no matter what. As an outcome of that (and years and years of hard work creating her personal training and fitness company) she is now one of the richest and most successful females in Australia-she doesn't even charge a fee to speak at these conferences, instead asking people to donate to RSPCA on her behalf.

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the day as it taught us to never give up on our dreams, be resilient and do something great every single day. Thank you to Miss Dunstan for taking us to such a rewarding leadership conference.



Secondary School Leaders Conference

On the 5th June, 2019 our School Captains and School Vice Captains visited the State Parliament House and we got to experience what it is like to become a parliamentarian for the day.

When we arrived, Mark Coure (the Member for Oatley) welcomed us, as well as students from other schools. Mark Coure explained the history of the Parliament House to us as well as why he joined politics.

The Minister for Education joined us to speak about the importance of education, how important it is for young leaders like ourselves to get involved in politics as well as told us the reasons why they got into politics. We are glad to say that we enjoyed their company and they inspired us to work harder every day to improve on our leadership skills. We were able to pick their brains and enjoy a very nice lunch with the other schools.

Later in the day, we attended Question Time in the Green Room which was rather interesting. The Opposition questioned the Government about their recent bills, and tested them to see how well they knew them, in hopes to put the opposite party to "shame". It was quite entertaining and it was the perfect way to end our Parliament journey.



World Vision Youth Conference

Four of our SRC representatives attended this conference at UNSW on Thursday 30th May, 2019. The students listened to a range of speakers, including those who have survived refugee crisis. The team will be speaking about World Vision's Backpack Challenge and also our sponsor child Simret at our next formal assembly.



Conviction Group Young Men's Health Forum

Four Year 10 boys were also given the opportunity to attend the Young Men's Health Forum on Friday 7th June, 2019.

On Friday the 7th of June, Mr Morley accompanied us to Bankstown Sports Club to partake in a conference run by the Conviction Group. There were five speakers across the day

who all spoke from their personal experiences. For example, Chris Lee who had been working hard for a scholarship, raising his grades and losing weight for three years when one night he went out drinking with his friends and got into a fight. He is now blind in one eye and lost his scholarship. This taught us that even one night or one mistake can negatively affect the rest of our lives. He told us how to better cope with stress and how these nights out can seem like a good idea at the time but can set your entire life back.

All of the speakers were highly engaging and informative, but what was the most valuable on the day was the personal, mixed groups that we were placed in. Our group leaders shared their personal experiences with us and we were separated from our teacher and schoolmates so that we were able to vent/talk about our own personal lives and we gained some advice about seeking help for our friends if they are experiencing mental health concerns or crisis.

Another speaker that presented was Melinda Tankard-Reist. She spoke about healthy relationships between males and females, whether this be a boyfriend, girlfriend, sister, mother, etc. She brought up issues related to respecting women and how certain comments may affect people without us realising it. This was interesting because she went into detail about what your comments mean and the real result of your words. We also spoke about how to change our ways and that not all men are actually like this but for the ones who are need to change or be the ones who speak up against any concerning comments.

Overall, it was a fantastic day to talk with other young males about topics that don't always suit the typical incorrect stereotype of being a man. We are going to elaborate on these topics with the rest of our male school community at an upcoming formal assembly.

By Cooper A

Woolworths Earn and Learn

Our SRC has also signed up to the Woolworths Earn and Learn program. This means that when our school community is shopping and spends \$10 at Woolworths they will receive a sticker. For example if you spend \$50 you can get 5 stickers. With these stickers you can either put them into the box at Mortdale Woolworths or you can give the stickers to me and I can put them into the GRC Peakhurst box for you. When the program ends, we will then get to choose a range of learning and sporting supplies but this also depends on the amount of participation that we have from everyone. If we all collect the stickers we could end up receiving a range of equipment that will benefit us all. So please start saying yes when the Woolworths cashier offers you the stickers or ask for them if they don't give them to you straight away. Please feel free to approach your SRC members or myself if you have any questions. Thank you!

Cooper A

Important Dates:

Mental Health Public Speaking Challenge – ongoing – Thursday 27th June, Friday 16th August
GRC Cross Campus SRC Conference – Thursday 20th June at Hurstville Boys Campus

Year Meetings – Friday 21st June for all Year Groups
Year 7 Induction into SRC at Formal Assembly – Term 3, Friday 9th August, 2019
Mufti Day Term 2 – Friday 5th July – in support of our child sponsorship and World Vision
Leadership/Support Unit Camp- Wednesday 28th August – Friday 30th August

As always, if you have suggestions or queries about SRC, please do not hesitate to consult your peer student leaders, use the suggestion box outside the Deputy Principals' offices or visit either of us in the English staffroom.



Enjoy the rest of Term 2!

Miss Lauren Osmond and Miss Lauren Dunstan
SRC Coordinators

Wellbeing Team Report

The Student Wellbeing Committee plays a pivotal role in our school community, providing students with an open forum to discuss pertinent social justice and individual wellbeing 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.

On Friday 31st May, the Student Wellbeing Committee, together with the SRC, put on a wonderful morning tea for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for the Cancer Council. Students baked a variety of treats to sell on the day. There was live music by our very talented musical students in the school and in only half an hour, students managed to raise \$400. Add to this the \$320 that staff raised at their morning tea, and overall we were thrilled to donate \$720 to the Cancer Council on behalf of GRC Peakhurst Campus. What a tremendous effort!

In addition to these fundraiser events, the Student Wellbeing Committee continues to present at formal assemblies, as demonstrated by their Harmony Day speeches that discussed racism and inclusivity. Additionally, students have been liaising with their peers in order to gain insight into their opinions and perspectives and have implemented a Suggestion Box in the school to hear lots of great ideas.



Miss Julia Picone
Peer Support Coordinator/Wellbeing Coordinator

Ms Michelle Seinor
Wellbeing Coordinator/Aboriginal Education Coordinator

Ms Alice Talevski
Year 10 Advisor/Wellbeing Coordinator

Gifted and Talented

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 Premier's Reading Challenge, Premier's Debating Challenge, Primary Links 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

From the Administration Office

School Statement of Accounts

The school Statement of Accounts were posted out last week. Should there be an 'Unallocated Credit' displaying on your statement could you please advise us as to which fee you would like to offset it against. Please note: We are unable to offset a credit without your authority.

For your convenience payment of school fees and 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

A reminder, fees may be paid off throughout the year.

Lost Property

There is quite a collection of items in lost property, in particular uniform items without names on them. Should your child be missing an item of their school uniform or something they've brought to school, please remind them to come to the front office to check lost property.

Any labelled items in lost property are returned to students.

Carmel O'Shea

School Administrative Manager

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.

Nadine Y – Diligent effort in English

Joshua Y – School service

Nina D – School service

PASS Students – Assistance at Athletics Carnival

Louis C – School service

Lilli C – Diligent application to classwork

LEARNING ENHANCEMENT IS FOR EVERYONE

In any one school, there will be students who may experience difficulties with learning. These difficulties may vary in cause, nature, intensity and duration. At GCR – Peakhurst, The Learning Enhancement Team plays a key role in ensuring that the specific learning needs of all our students experiencing difficulties are met.

SUPPORT is available to every student in need and we can help in the areas of;

- ❖ Learning difficulties
- ❖ Physical disabilities
- ❖ Anxiety
- ❖ Injury
- ❖ Long & short term learning concerns
- ❖ Assignment help (Available recess and lunch every day)
- ❖ Organisation



We have a

- ❖ Lunch games room – now open every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday recess and lunch
- ❖ Sensory/rest room
- ❖ Support Enhancement centre

If you have any questions or would like to contact the Enhancement Team to discuss the learning needs of your child please contact us on the school number or by email on;

Peta Holm - Head Teacher Support & Enhancement - petaholm@det.nsw.edu.au

Jennifer Jarman - Learning and Support Teacher (Yrs. 7 & 9) - jennifer.jarman@det.nsw.edu.au

Monique Van De Pol - Learning and Support Teacher (Yrs. 8 & 10) -

monique.vandepol@det.nsw.edu.au



student eyecare



Free Eye Tests

Covered through Medicare

Haven't had your eyes tested in a while?

According to the **Optometry Association of Australia**, every person should get their eyes checked at least once every two years.

Full eye tests will be conducted at **Georges River College – Peakhurst**.

At least **1 in every 6** students have vision issues that go undetected.

Typical symptoms that go undetected are **quick loss of concentration, reading avoidance, blurry vision, tired eyes and headaches**.

All students are given a detailed report at the end of their eye tests.

Find out if your child's eyes are in good condition!

Don't miss out

For more info, please visit www.studenteyecare.com.au

(02) 8188 1334

GRC PEAKHURST CAMPUS

Chess Club



**Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Recess and Lunch Fo.17**