



7 May 2021

## From the Principal

### Farewells

I have great pleasure to announce that Ms Osborne has been successful through the merit selection process in gaining the position of Principal at Wiley Park Girls High School. Ms Osborne has been one of our Deputy Principals for close to 4 years. She has worked tirelessly to support the academic, social and emotional needs of all students. She has been a driving force in leading wellbeing initiatives in the school. She demonstrated outstanding leadership while in the role of acting principal last year through the ever-changing landscape that COVID-19 presented us. She has led the school through an evaluation of student performance, teacher classroom practice and other initiatives within the school, and she has been a key driver in developing our school plan for the next four years. Wiley Park Girls are very lucky to be gaining such an inspirational leader. Someone who will lead with integrity, courage and compassion. Someone who will create and drive an impact on the teachers there to significantly influence student learning outcomes. Ms Osborne will leave a very big hole here and we are all very sad to see her leave. Ms Osborne began her new role this term and we wish her all the very best.

Mr Smith, one of our science teachers has been successful through the merit selection process in gaining the position of Head Teacher Science at JJ Cahill Memorial High School. It is a coeducational Years 7-12 high school in Mascot. Mr Smith took up this new position at the beginning of term 2. Congratulations to Mr Smith on this promotion and we wish him all the very best. We know that he will take all that he has learned here at GRC Peakhurst and put it into practice as he leads his new faculty.

### School Canteen

From the beginning of term 2, a new company called Bon Appetit have taken over the lease of our school canteen. There is a diverse, tasty new menu with daily and weekly specials. Please find the menu below. They have introduced an eftpos machine for students and staff to use if they do not have cash.

### Wellbeing Day

On Friday 19 March, we held 'Our Day' - GRC Peakhurst's Wellbeing Day. It was a jam packed day of activities combining Wellbeing, Harmony Day, Worlds Greatest Shave and the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. Thank you to Ms Picone and the staff in the Student Wellbeing Team for their energy and organisation of the day. I was very impressed with the cooperation, participation and fun that I saw on the day. I certainly enjoyed my pizza and donut at lunchtime. In all seriousness, I am certain that students took some important messages away from the day and were able to share this with family and friends. Harmony Day's message for 2021 is "everyone belongs" and I feel that this theme is reflective of our GRC Peakhurst community.



### Cultural Performances

Project Youth support young people aged 12-24 across Sutherland Shire, Georges River and Bayside offering programs that enable young people to be connected, safe, achieving and healthy. A group of our students have been working with Project Youth, Menai over a period of about 6 months, learning more about their heritage and culture, and how that fits in with their personal lives, our school culture and our local community. These students learned some traditional dances from their own heritage and performed these at a whole school assembly on 26 March. Congratulations to all students involved who performed so well on the day and entertained us all. They celebrated their culture and showed such pride in their heritage. Thank you to Tiana from Project Youth Menai for working with our students and for coordinating this wonderful display. Thank you also to the parents of the performers who were able to attend the assembly and share the experience.



## ANZAC Day

GRC Peakhurst held a ceremony on Friday 23 April to commemorate ANZAC Day. Five students from years 8-10 volunteered to lead the organisation of the ceremony. Thank you to Cody J Year 8, Caitlin J Year 9, Sebastian S Year 9, Cameron A Year 10 and Zac H Year 10 for their input into the planning, introductions, speeches and presentations. It was such a moving ceremony and so well received by the school community. Thank you to the staff involved, including Ms Diamond, Ms Osmond, Ms Rydstrand, Ms Haidar, Ms Keir and Mr Page. Thank you also to the parents who attended to share in the commemoration.



## Graffiti Prevention Project

A team of our students participated in a Graffiti Prevention Project on 30 March on the school grounds. This was a joint school and Georges River Council project to determine an area that was at risk from graffiti and enhance the area to prevent any damage occurring. We identified the shipping container outside the school hall, which is used to store furniture, as such an area. The Council provided us with all the resources required, including paint, paint brushes, plants and gardening equipment to complete the project. I am sure you will agree that our students have done an amazing job. Georges River Council arranged for an article to be placed in the St George Leader. Please see the link below.

<https://www.theleader.com.au/story/7205071/a-graffiti-free-georges-river/>



**Ms Diane Wilson**  
**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 assessment tasks including some in class half-yearly exams. In addition to internal assessment, Year 7 and Year 9 students will sit the external assessment NAPLAN between Monday May 11th and

Thursday May 13th. Please refer to the email sent to all parents in relation to NAPLAN. Further details on assessment can be found on our school webpage.

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

The **feedback** for each assessment task regardless of 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 that they have developed strength in, or course outcome they have achieved and how. 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 applied in an incorrect way for the task. Remember, all **2021 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 Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon 3 - 4pm in the library.

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 absent, when needing to leave school early or when feeling unwell, for example, all of which have been designed to allow the maximum time in class is being spent on learning tasks. 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 pieces, especially jackets and jumpers are clearly labelled with the students name 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 pieces can be added for warmth, please refer to our policy via the school website.

To ensure all students have a positive start to their day of learning our **Breakfast Club** continues twice a week. 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. Many thanks to Ms Seidel for coordinating this initiative and for the generous support of the school P&C. We look forward to seeing our students continue to access this fantastic initiative.

## 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 instead. You could just feel really bad, or you could try these 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 what the issue was, you can either accept it, or challenge it. ACCEPT: If you feel now that the mark was actually fair enough, then it is time to move on. There is no point beating yourself up anymore 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 actually a really 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 wow - you will really see the benefit 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 go, 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 next time. It would also be a great idea for your next assignment to show your teacher a plan, or a draft early on, explaining how you think you've met the criteria, and seek feedback well BEFORE handing it in.

The important process of transition from the Peakhurst Campus to the Oatley Senior Campus of Georges River College commenced on 26th April where students participated in a subject information day. They met many of the staff, for many of the subjects run at GRC Oatley. Information was informative and explicit and our students had the opportunity to ask questions at the end of each presentation. This informed our students of the vast subjects GRC Oatley have to offer and how important it is to make the right decision for the pathway they choose to take. These presentations have been made available to parents online through Moodle until 24th May. Parents have previously been emailed the links to access these presentations.

The next transition component our students will be involved in are the course taster days scheduled for the 17th May, 18th May and 20th May. Students will have the opportunity to have a hands on experience, being part of the senior campus

and a senior style learning environment. Students have been provided with specific details about which day they will visit the GRC Oatley campus for these courses. Parents have also been emailed information in relation to these visits.

We try and make the transition for our students from Year 10 to Year 11 as smooth as possible. It is important for our students to ask questions to the staff of GRC Oatley, to their classroom teacher, to our careers advisor Ms Arfanis and make informed decisions about their subject selections for Year 11 2022.

It is imperative throughout the transition process that the students continue to work towards the stage 5 NESA requirements to successfully achieve course outcomes in each of their subject areas to ensure that they are eligible to continue onto Year 11 at GRC Oatley. Parents are requested to call the school if they have any questions or queries about the transition process.

As part of the COVID Intensive Learning Program, Students of Year 9 and 10 have been given an opportunity to be withdrawn from class to receive extra assistance in literacy and numeracy several times a week to help fill any gaps they may have in their learning. Students have been asked to see Mrs Favuzzi to express their interest in participating in this program.

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.

**Julia Picone - Relieving Deputy Principal Year 7**  
**Scott Wilson - Deputy Principal Year 8**  
**Sophia Favuzzi - Acting Deputy Principal Years 9 & 10**

## Year 7 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to the start of Term 2 - another busy term with Semester 1 assessment tasks and exams which will go towards student Semester 1 reports for 2021. I hope all students will remain focused and diligent as they complete their tasks and I encourage all students to take advantage of the Homework Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons to ensure their work is being completed to their highest ability. Please ensure if you are absent you catch up on any work you have missed and advise your teachers in advance if possible.

As our half yearly reports are fast approaching I would like to take this opportunity to remind our students of our core values of respect, responsibility and aiming for excellence, as these values will be addressed and represented in the Semester 1 reports. Another reminder for students to hand in their merit awards with their full name on the merit to ensure they are processed and the points are added to our system.

I look forward to reviewing each of the individual reports to identify the success and improvements each student has made across Semester 1. Upon receiving reports, it is imperative that each student takes the time to review the report with your parents and take note of the advice and feedback that teachers have offered to improve learning. These comments will allow you to make necessary changes so that you can further improve for semester 2 of this year.

As always, students are reminded to see me to discuss any issues or concerns they may be experiencing, I can be found in the Science staffroom. I would like to wish all students a productive and enjoyable Term 2!

**Stoyan Kostaski**  
**Year 7 Student Advisor**

## Year 8 Student Advisor Report

Welcome to term 2. A reminder for all year 8 students regarding the importance of using their school diaries of which are required during each lesson to record homework, messages and assessment tasks. Students can also refer to their diary for bell times, school rules and policies, uniform requirements and behaviour expectations. Remember whilst studying for exams, to get enough sleep and don't leave revision to the last minute we cannot retain the required information needed 1 hour prior.

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

GRC Peakhurst Homework Centre program in 2021 at this stage operates every Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. Tuesday (3-4.15) and Wednesday (2.30-3.45) afternoons in our school library, which is supervised by two teachers. I encourage all students to attend the homework centre as it provides the opportunity to complete tasks, stay ahead of your work load and discuss any questions you have with the teacher in charge. Please check your timetable and the schools website for upcoming assessments tasks and examinations, also a gentle reminder that term 2 is reporting term with teachers working hard to ensure all students are completing set tasks.

A big special mention to Cody J, Sam M and Xander M for assisting with the flags on a weekly basis the boys also took an active role in the Graffiti Prevention Project at the end of last term, a big thank you to these boys for their conscientious efforts and leadership.

Further details of future events will be forwarded to parents and students as we embark on new adventures through these changing times. Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Michelle Seinor**  
**Year 8 Student Advisor**

## Year 9 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to all year 9 students and families to the start of what will be a very busy term here at GRC Peakhurst.

As term 2 begins, the weather will change and the uniform requirements will also change. As it gets cooler, it's important students are bringing warm school clothes. School jumpers and jackets are available for students to purchase a Lowes. Hoodies and other long sleeve clothing along with sweatpants that are not part of our school uniform and will not be accepted. Please ensure that the correct uniform is ready for each day.

Please ensure that if your child is absent that their absence is explained via return SMS with either a phone call to the school or a note signed and brought back to the front office 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. All class work is also uploaded onto Google Classroom for every subject. Students must ensure they have joined the correct class in order to keep up with any missed work. A reminder that Homework Centre is also on every Tuesday and Wednesday in the Library after school with snacks provided.

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 at our school starting from Tuesday of Week 4 and will run between May 11th - 13th. Further details are provided in a separate note.

Students and parents alike are reminded that school diaries must be brought to school every day. With assessments and reports on the way students must keep up with all class work and assessment tasks. Creating a study plan at home assures students are completing all work while also getting into good habits with their studies. Students should also be speaking to their class teachers if they need extra support with tasks and class work. Alternatively, students are encouraged to come and see their year advisor if issues arise in relation to the school work.

If students, parents/carers have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself through email or by phoning the school. I would like to wish Year 9 an enjoyable and productive term.

**Ms Mariam Haidar**  
**Year 9 Student Advisor**

## Year 10 Student Advisor Report

Welcome back to Term 2! This term will be another busy term with assessment tasks and exams taking place in all subjects. Students are encouraged to speak to their class teacher if they are unsure of what they need to revise. Students are reminded that if they have misplaced their assessment notification, they can be accessed via the GRC Peakhurst Website under Assessment Tasks - Year 10.

### Awards

Towards the end of Term 1, a number of students were involved in an interview process aimed to reflect upon their 2020 academic progress. Students took part in a variety of goal setting exercises that aimed to improve specific learning areas that were individually identified by each student.

During this process, a selected group of students were awarded a gold or silver principals award to recognise their outstanding achievement or significant improvement in Grade Point Averages from semester 2 2019 to semester 2 2020.

Congratulations to the following students:

## Gold Awards

Teyia.A  
Cameron.A  
Ashley.B  
Jenny.C  
Max.G  
Yasmin.N  
Abbey.R  
Shae.E  
Laurence.L  
Tayla.P  
Matthew.H  
Victoria.R  
Antonio.D  
Zachary.H  
Eleanor.K  
Taj.M  
Alivia.B  
Yash.G  
Chloe.S

## Silver Awards

Keira.A  
Joshua.B  
Olivia.B  
Brett.C  
James.D  
Danielle.E  
Shuyu.F  
Archie.F  
Victoria.G  
Ali.H  
Amelia.M  
Jamison.M  
Liam.T  
Robert.T  
Mariane.K  
Sam.K

## Oatley Transitions Days

On Monday the 26th April all year 10 students attended Oatley Senior Campus where they were presented with information regarding each subject that is offered at the Campus. Students were encouraged to take notes and ask questions to assist them when selecting subjects to study for year 11 in 2022. During week 5 of this term, students will also be given the opportunity to attend the Oatley Campus and experience the senior class in action. Below are some important dates for Term 2:

Oatley Course Taster Day program

- Surnames **A-F** attend Oatley on Monday 17th May.
- Surnames **G-N** attend Oatley on Tuesday 18th May.

- Surnames **O-Z** attend Oatley on Thursday 20th May

Subject Selection Information Evening for Students and Parents

- Tuesday 15th June at GRC Oatley 7pm-8pm

GRC Oatley Curriculum Expo

- 22nd June at GRC Oatley 4pm-7pm

## Year 10 Formal

The Year 10 Formal has been tentatively booked for Wednesday 1st December 2021, at Doltone House, Sylvania Waters. The formal is held to celebrate the graduation of the students and serves as a farewell to year 10, 2021. At this stage the final cost of the formal is yet to be confirmed, however, it will be between \$110-\$130. 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. The expression of interest notes and deposit of \$50 was due on the 3rd May, however, if students are yet to make a deposit and return the note, could I kindly ask that this is done by Friday 22nd May to secure a spot at the formal. Any concerns or questions please come and see me in the TAS staffroom.

## Attendance and absences

Please ensure that if your child is absent that their absence is explained via return SMS with either a phone call to the school or a note signed and brought to school on their return. A medical certificate should also be provided where necessary. This is a requirement for assessment tasks and examinations to explain their absence. Students should also be checking in with their teachers to catch up on any missed work.

## Uniform

As we head into the cooler weather, it is important that students are always in their full school uniform. White socks are an integral part of GRC's school uniform. It is essential that they are worn with black leather school shoes on non-sport days.

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 TAS Staffroom in A-Block.

**Fotini Tzoumas**

**Year 10 Student Advisor**

## FACULTY NEWS

### CAPA

### Dance

The Peakhurst dancers have been busily rehearsing over the last term to complete 2 dances to perform later in the year. The Company Dance group (meeting Monday mornings) are working on a commercial jazz routine and the Ensemble Dance group (meeting Tuesday mornings) are working on a jazz routine with elements of musical theatre. I am extremely proud of all the dancer's efforts and commitment to dance so far and cannot wait to see these dances perfected and performed at our Peakform showcase later in the year.

A group of approximately 20 of the dancers have also been meeting on a Wednesday morning to attend an Acrobatics lesson. This lesson is not compulsory for the dancers but it has been great to see this number of students eager to further develop their acrobatics skills. So far, we have been working on basic acrobatics skills including rolls, back bends, cartwheels and handstands. It has been a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic bunch of students each Wednesday morning.

Our representative dance groups (Company and Ensemble) will soon be preparing for their involvement in 'The Southern Stars Arena Spectacular', which is a performance that will occur in August. Our school is part of the mass dance group along with a number of other schools. A note regarding all information about 'The Southern Stars Arena Spectacular' will be sent to parents very soon.

Another area of dance in our school is the Year 7 Performing Arts dancers. These dancers are also busily preparing and rehearsing! This term, the whole of year 7 are partaking in a Performing Arts Day and performance. This performance includes dancing, acting and a showcase of props/costumes designed by our Year 7 Performing Arts stage designers. Year 7 are very much looking forward to the rehearsal day and performance day, showcasing all their hard work over Term 1 and Term 2.

**Amy Johnson**  
**Dance Coordinator**

## HSIE

### Meet the HSIE faculty

The HSIE faculty is a team of dedicated and experienced educators with a strong commitment to providing engaging and innovative learning opportunities across all year groups and subjects. Led by Ms Diamond as the Head Teacher of the HSIE faculty, the team includes Ms Beck, Mr Church, Ms Cvijetic, Ms Hamilton, Mr Sarandos, Ms Schenk, Mr Vhrovac and Ms Vlachos.

□

### Year 7 investigates the past

Beginning the year with an introduction to the study of History through the 'Investigating the Past' topic, students spent much of Term 1 developing their research, literacy and numeracy skills. They learnt how to analyse primary sources, created timelines and applied some fundamental chronology skills.

Year 7 were guided to further develop their paragraph writing and research skills through the creation of an extended response on Otzi the Iceman, a 5300 year old ice mummy discovered on the Austro-Italian border. Below are just a few of the fantastic responses by

Year 7:

Year 9 History recruits for World War II

Year 9 History started 2021 with an introductory unit called 'Making of the Modern World'. During this unit, students learnt why the Industrial Revolution occurred and gained an understanding of how settlement patterns changed, and what the impact was on the environment and living conditions.



Studies in Year 9 History moved on to a core topic on Australians in World War One. After investigating the reasons why men volunteered, students were asked to create their own recruitment poster, in addition to submitting a written section on source analysis and the use of wartime propaganda. Below are some of the excellent posters handed in by Year 9:

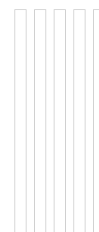
Year 9 History Elective spends a day discovering archaeology at The Rocks, Sydney

- Written by Daniel M. Year 9 History Elective

On 30 March, Year 9 History Elective went for an archaeological excursion to The Rocks, where we visited the Big Dig Archaeology Education Centre. At the Centre we were met by our guide who introduced us to the head archaeologist of the Big Dig, Mr Wayne Johnson. The class was shown a presentation on archaeology and an explanation about the difference between history and archaeology, which is essentially that history is written and archaeology is physical. We were also shown how to use x-ray technology to find artefacts and much more.

After the presentation we were given several artefacts, such as bones, pieces of pottery, bottles, etc. which we had to analyse and answer question about our artefacts. After lunch we met our guide underneath the Harbour Bridge, he showed us the archaeological sites and took us down to a closed room where the gunpowder for cannons were kept. We then visited the Rocks Discovery Museum which is housed in a restored sandstone warehouse and is home to a unique collection of images and archaeological artefacts found at The Rocks. At the end of the day, we all felt that we had learnt something new about the history of Australia and the way it is brought back to life by archaeology.

Below are some of the pictures from the excursion.



### 10 Commerce learns important lessons about parliament and the law!

Late last term Year 10 Commerce students ventured to Sydney CBD for the day as part of their studies into 'Law and Politics'. During this excursion, they visited both NSW State Parliament and the NSW Justice and Police Museum. At both venues, students were given the opportunity to put their learning into practice by participating in the passing of a Bill in Parliament and recreating a criminal case in a historic local court!



## Year 10 develops their understanding of indigenous rights and freedoms

The first topic in Year 10 was a core unit on 'Changing Rights and Freedoms'. This topic focused on the changing societal and government treatment of indigenous people over the last century. This included a visit from former residents from the Kinchela Boys' Home, a residence used by the government to remove indigenous boys from their homes in NSW.

Year 10 demonstrated their communication, literacy and research skills through an assessment task on Land Rights. Students were able to choose the medium in which to demonstrate their understanding. Below is some of the excellent work submitted by Year 10 students:

**Aaliyah J.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xS3l6KE9K6s>

**Shae E.**

## 10 History Elective explores the history of Crime and Punishment

During Term 1, 10 History Elective students progressed through a thematic unit on the history of Crime and Punishment from ancient times to the modern world. During this unit, students discovered how witches were treated during the middle ages, created a museum poster on different torture devices and produced a documentary on the history of prisons and other forms of punishment. Included is some of the excellent work that was submitted:

<https://animoto.com/play/kJHKpW8mgfQ2ocvXVJzdTg>

**Ashley B. and Jenny C.**

<https://animoto.com/play/vkEvylWypBYwSgZglKsycQ>

**Xenia R.**

Best wishes for the rest of Term 2!

**Ms H. Diamond**  
**HSIE Head Teacher**

## Mathematics & Computing

### Mathematics and Computing Faculty for 2021

- Mrs C. Keir (COVID - 19 Intensive Learning Support Program - Numeracy)
- Mr D. Smithard (Relieving Head Teacher / Year 9 Coordinator)
- Ms A. Pham (Year 10 Coordinator)
- Mr N. Fomin (Year 8 Coordinator)
- Mrs M. Ibrahim (Year 7 Coordinator)
- Mr R. Bokar

- Mr F. Chakari
- Ms N. Ivanovska

In the aftermath of the lockdown in 2020 due to COVID – 19, GRC Peakhurst has collected identified and analysed data to identify students most impacted. Students will take part in an intensive program to bridge the gaps in their numeracy. The program is being coordinated and run by Mrs Keir and will be up and running in the coming weeks. More details will be published in future editions of this newsletter.

Meanwhile, any general concerns or questions regarding Mathematics at GRC Peakhurst should be directed to Mr Smithard. For more detailed information on your child's progress in Mathematics, please contact their teacher directly. Semester one reports will be distributed this term, giving an insight into the academic progress of all students for the first half of 2021.

### Google Classroom

As pointed out in the previous newsletter, it is imperative that all students have access to both their class and academic year group Mathematics GCs in 2021. Important information is disseminated using this medium and it is particularly useful for students who miss lessons due to illness or extra-curricular activities.

### Homework and Study Suggestions

One of the most critical skills required for progress in Mathematics is one which should have been learnt in primary school – times tables. The notion of rote learning is often discouraged, however, there is no substitute for learning times tables. Mastery, ensures a solid foundation for the life skills taught in the Measurement topics and allows for an easier transition to more abstract concepts found in the Algebra topics.

Regardless of the skill, practice breeds familiarity, confidence and competence. Hence, while homework is not always mandated, it is strongly encouraged. If set tasks are not completed in class, then there is an expectation that it is completed at home. All classes have textbook exercises that are accessible via GC and a Mathematics account. Set some challenges for your child. For example, five Mathematics tasks completed with at least 70% correct equals an hour of free time. Recite the 7 times tables in under 40 seconds and you can skip packing the dishwasher tonight!

All students should ensure they do these three things to ensure they increase their learning:

- Listen intently to explanations in class
- Ask lots of questions to ensure a concept is understood
- Consolidate the learning with practice in class and at home

Students are also encouraged to attend the Homework Centre on Tuesday and/or Wednesday afternoons in the School Library for additional assistance.

## Mathletics

Mathletics is an interactive online computer resource which the Mathematics Faculty has been incorporating into teaching, homework and assessment programs for several years. Regular use of this online tool has proven to help students consolidate content taught during lessons, revise content at home in preparation for examinations and receive assistance at any time, using the support button, when struggling with specific concepts. The cost of this valuable resource remains at \$10 per student per year. If you have not already done so this year, please arrange for your child to pay \$10 at the front office as soon as possible.

Students who do not have access to the Internet at home may use the School Library during recess and lunch or when attending the Homework Centre on Tuesday and/or Wednesday afternoons. Alternatively, students may arrange a time with their class teacher to use the D1.04 computer lab.

## NAPLAN

NAPLAN is in Week 4 of this term. It is compulsory for students in Year 7 and Year 9.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program:

- Encourage your child to simply do the best they can on the day.
- Avoid excessive cramming or coaching in the lead-up to NAPLAN
- Speak to your child's teacher if you have questions about how you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN.

If you want to help your child feel comfortable with the kinds of questions in a NAPLAN test, you can view past NAPLAN papers and answers for practice or visit the NAPLAN Online public demonstration site.

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

## RoSA

The NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) issues the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) to eligible students who leave school before completing the Higher School Certificate (HSC). The RoSA is useful to students leaving school prior to the HSC because they can show it to potential employers or places of further learning. To be eligible for a RoSA, students must have completed the mandatory curriculum requirements for Years 7 to 10.

If a student receives an 'N' determination in a mandatory curriculum requirement course, such as Mathematics, they won't be eligible for the RoSA. Some year 10 students are not currently applying themselves with diligence and not achieving the course outcomes. All students must complete set work to the best of their ability and sit for all assessment tasks to ensure they will receive the RoSA on completion of year 10. If you have concerns for your child's eligibility for the RoSA, please contact the school.

**Mr David Smithard**

**Relieving Head Teacher Mathematics**

## PDHPE

### Cross Country Carnival

Due to recent wet weather and extremely poor air quality due to smoke, our annual whole school Cross Country Carnival had to be cancelled on two separate occasions. As a result, students will be required to nominate themselves for zone representation. Students may be required to undergo a trialling process if nominations exceed the maximum number permitted. Students are encouraged to listen out for further information during week 3, in the lead up to the Zone Cross Country Carnival on Tuesday 4th May at Scarborough Park.

### Athletics Carnival

A reminder to all that the GRC Peakhurst Campus Athletics Carnival will run on 21st May at The Ridge Athletics Track. Students are encouraged to wear their house colours and compete in all events to increase their house points! PDHPE classes have been busy running refresher lessons on the various athletics events that will run on the day of the carnival.

### Year 10 PASS Event Management Gala Day

At the beginning of Term 2, our 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 4, 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!



### Year 10 PDHPE Drug Education Incursion

Our year 10 cohort were involved in an engaging incursion late in Term 1 which was coordinated by the Independent Drug Education Association – Tom Reynolds. The Day is always well received by students and is highly effective in supporting our Stage 5 unit and assessment centred around Risk in the adolescent years.



## Year 9 & 10 PASS Camp

In Term 3 the PDHPE department is conducting a three-day Outdoor Education camp to compliment several units taught in stage 5 Physical Activity and Sports Studies (PASS). The camp will take place at **'The Great Aussie Bush Camp' – Kincumber.**

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

During the three-day camp experience, PASS students will be participating in a selection of the following activities: Abseiling, orienteering, canoeing, commando course, high and low ropes, raft building, sailing, rock climbing, archery and the giant swing. Further information will be distributed home in the coming weeks.

Notes and payment is now due. Please hand permission notes to the PDHPE staff room and make payments to the front office. Spare notes are available in the PDHPE staff room.

## Buckley Shield Rugby League Competition

On Wednesday 28th April our under 14's Buckley Shield team played South Sydney High School in round 2 of the state-wide rugby league knockout at Peakhurst Park.

It shaped as a difficult match against a much bigger opposition as we only had 2 reserves and more than half the team fasting during the month of Ramadan. However, the boys started well in a fast-paced game and scored first from a break from front rower Hassan D who broke through the line and ran 30 metres to score. We continued to play well through the middle with very strong defence and great support play against a very physical opposition.

We only conceded one try late in the second half as we continued to play strongly, finishing the match 30-4 victors. All the boys played great in a strong team performance with special mention to Isaac A and Hadi M who were outstanding.

□

## Bill Turner Cup Soccer Competition

Our u/15 boys Bill Turner Cup squad were successful in progressing through to the 2nd round after a 3-0 win against Woolooware High School. The match was played in fantastic spirits by both teams. Our squad are eagerly awaiting the next round fixture against Heathcote High School which will be played during Week 4.

**Mr Aaron Morley**

**Relieving Head Teacher PDHPE**

## Special Education

Welcome to Term 2.

It's great to see everyone refreshed after the school holidays.

Thankfully COVID-19 restrictions are easing and many activities are resuming. This week the physical class, with great excitement, ventured out for community access. This program is a great opportunity for students to use their money skills and

timetables skills in the real world. Over the coming weeks, more classes will resume this program on a Friday.

Miss Picone will be Relieving Deputy Principal for this term. We welcome Miss Montgomery and Mrs Wagener to the Blue Class.

Please write in your child's communication book if there are changes to your son/daughter's pick up routine in the afternoon. Similarly, if your child is on transport, please make sure that you inform the driver of these changes.

Students in the Support Unit are expected to wear correct school uniform, including shoes and white socks. No converse or canvas shoes. Wearing the correct shoes is an occupational health and safety requirement – especially when students are participating in practical subjects such as Food Technology. Great to see so many names on jumpers/jackets!

**Don't forget to check our school website regularly!**

Have a great term!

**Mrs Peta Holm**

**Head Teacher Special Education**

## Student Representative Council

Welcome back to Term 2!

Your Student Representative Council had an exceptionally busy and productive Term 1 to begin the school year. We welcomed our Year 7 SRC members, led our first major events and participated in our first leadership conferences.

Last newsletter you were introduced to all of our Year 10 SRC members. Please see below for some introductions from Year 9 this time.

**Elektra** - Hi, I am Elektra and I am a member of the Year 9 SRC.

Leadership to me is leading or guiding a group of people into the right direction using various leadership techniques and qualities such as confidence, being approachable and helpfulness. These are the skills I aimed to improve by joining SRC. Leadership is important to me because without it, people everywhere would not know what to do, where to go or how to behave/act.

Something I enjoy participating in is dance. I dance on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, learning most dance styles. I really enjoy doing dance as it is a way of expressing my feelings without speaking.

**Lofitu** - Hello, my name is Lofitu.

I think leadership is an important quality taken up by an individual in order to take command of a group, whether it's mentoring or monitoring their group's involvement. Leadership requires people to be confident, responsible and respectful in all fields of action including public speaking and organising an activity for your peers. This is one of the many reasons I joined SRC, to be educated on leadership and learn how to be a trusted role model for my fellow students and teachers.

Something about me that I enjoy doing is playing sports, especially rugby. I usually play on the weekends with my team and participate in training during the weekdays. An interesting

fact about me is that I can speak another language which is Tongan only because my parents are from Tonga.

**Caitlin** - Hi, my name is Caitlin.

To me, leadership is about setting an example for your fellow peers, as well as being someone who will volunteer to help others or lead the way in times of need. I joined the SRC to improve my public speaking skills, meet new people and most importantly to give back to the school community and improve it for future students.

I enjoy cooking, especially baking sugary treats. I also spend my time playing online games and being around friends.

**Fatima** - Hi, my name is Fatima.

Leadership is important to me because I love to help people and lead them to success. It is something that I have loved from a very young age and have enjoyed doing it and seeing the difference I can make.

Something I enjoy doing is cooking. I like trying new recipes and being in the kitchen brings me joy.

**Sebastian** - Hi, I'm Sebastian.

Leadership is important to me as I love to lead groups and talk to groups of people: it is a special quality that I thrive on. Leadership is not only leading groups but being a role model for others to follow. In the SRC so far I have learnt to expand on my confidence, not only in talking to individuals but groups as well. As an SRC member I love to take up the many opportunities that have been given to me like public speaking, group leadership and running mufti days. Even though we may be put out of our comfort zones a lot in this role, it's worth it as I love representing our school in whatever aspect this may form.

Something about me is that I really enjoy playing soccer and cricket on the weekends to keep me active as well as attending training sessions in the week. An interesting fact about me is that I am in our school debating team as 4th speaker which I really enjoy.

**Ben** - Hi, I'm Ben.

I wanted to do SRC in Year 8 so I could try something new and I ended up really enjoying it so I decided to try out once more this year. Being a part of the SRC team comes with many new adventures and opportunities to try out everyday. These include talking at assemblies in front of the school and delivering speeches in general. Something that's positive about being in the SRC is that it can take you out of your comfort zone which personally, I am not used to as I didn't do much public speaking and leadership initiatives in primary school to help boost my confidence.

Some of the hobbies that I do outside of school include hip hop, which is really fun and enjoyable, as well as swimming which -fun fact- I made it to the Area Finals every year since Year 3. I also like to skate which I do a couple times a week around the neighbourhood in my free time.

**Amelia** - Hello, I'm Amelia.

Since primary school, I have always found it fun to voice the opinions of my peers and myself. Personally, I enjoy being a part of the team here at GRC Peakhurst because it comes

with so many fun experiences and memories that will never be forgotten. The best part of being a student leader is when we get to help others boost their own confidence. It always feels good to know that you helped someone. Other than being a student leader, I usually participate in school debates as the 3rd speaker, and out of school I do archery as a hobby on the weekends.

I'm looking forward to having a good year filled with both stressful and successful experiences, and getting to meet new people.

**Gordon** - Hi, my name is Gordon.

To me, leadership is a significant segment of the SRC role and to me. Leadership can be shown in different ways such as: bringing ideas to the table that will benefit the school greatly, being a role model to the younger students and my fellow peers. Another part of the role is to display confidence when speaking out about a certain topic or issue. I personally decided to take up the position of SRC after I had received a note from Miss Osmond, informing me about how my teachers had recommended me for the SRC role and how I was suited to join the upcoming team in 2021. And with the pressure of my peers, I took the chance.

I enjoy playing volleyball outside of school in a club, as well as playing online games with my friends. An interesting fact about me would be that I can speak a native dialect (Shanghainese).

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## Sustainability Project Update

In 2020, a committee of SRC members independently worked on a Sustainability Grant we received as a result of a proposal submitted by the leadership team in 2019. Although there were some unavoidable delays in completing this project, the team were able to overcome this, attending meetings with external organisations in order to arrange filtered water stations to be installed here at school. These are placed near the front office, canteen and hall for our school community to use. The water filter stations will allow us a more environmentally friendly and sustainable school environment, decreasing the need for disposable plastic water bottles in the hopes of eradicating them completely. Chloe T, Brendon L and Skye S in Year 11 at GRC Oatley must be commended for leading this project whilst they were here at GRC Peakhurst. The water filter stations will be highly valued by students for many years to come.

## Leadership By The River

This additional Leadership program is open to Year 9 and 10 students, led by Ms Cvjetic from HSIE. They have recently developed our 'Peaky Podcast' - please follow this on Spotify and stay tuned for episode 6!

## Crazy Hair Day - in support of the Leukaemia Foundation

We recently held our annual Crazy Hair Day event in support of the Leukaemia Foundation. The Leukaemia Foundation is the only national charity dedicated to helping those with leukaemia and related blood disorders to survive and live a better quality of life. Thank you to all SRC and Crew students for facilitating this event as well as Mr Kambouris and Aliyah J in Year 10 for raising over \$1000 in volunteering to have their heads shaved!



### GRIP Leadership

On Monday 29th March, 12 members of our SRC attended the annual GRIP Leadership Conference at the Ken Rosewall Arena, in Sydney Olympic Park. Please see below for a report on the day from our new Year 7 SRC members:

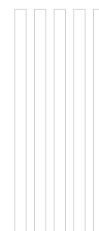
“Last term, 12 members of the GRC Peakhurst SRC attended the GRIP leadership conference as a part of our SRC experience. Along the way we learnt some great tips from a range of amazing speakers. We learnt so many useful tips to take back to our school to help improve our fundraisers, assemblies and year meetings. We were given practical strategies to become effective leaders. We all agree that this was an amazing opportunity. One of the things we learnt was how to involve more people in school events by making things fun, simple and purposeful. We think that this day was an amazing opportunity for all of us and we look forward to bringing these ideas and strategies to GRC Peakhurst. Thank you to Ms Wilson for allowing us to be involved in this beneficial day and for Miss Osmond for taking on this highly worthwhile extracurricular experience!”

By Avinash B, Jasneet C, Liam H, Finn P, Emma W and Amina V - Year 7 SRC 2021



### SRC Training Day

Our SRC Training and Planning Day was held on the last day of Term 1 and was a great success. Students are to be congratulated on taking initiative, leading leadership sessions of their own and stepping out of their comfort zones in order to be the best leaders they can for our school community. We also spent a valuable session with Event Crew, engaging in useful teamwork activities and official microphone training. Thank you Crew!



### Mufti Day 1 - House Colours

We also held our first Mufti Day for the year on the last day of Term 1. This was a collaborative effort with Ms Haidar, Aliyah J and Media Crew. Thank you to all students for their support of this initiative and for everyone wearing their house colours, in lieu of showing our support at the Swimming Carnival event.

The points totals for our four houses stand as follows:

FREEMAN  
90 points  
GOODES  
137 points  
MCGRATH  
155 points  
BEACHLEY  
243 points

Congratulations **Beachley house!**



### ANZAC Day Assembly

On Friday 23rd April, members of our SRC spoke formally and professionally to acknowledge ANZAC Day at our formal assembly. Cameron A, Caitlin J, Cody J and Sebastian S are to be commended for conducting such an impressive and heartfelt display. Zac H also worked on an outstanding video during the holidays which was presented during the assembly and is also attached below. Notice how the images progress from World War I to more recent world conflicts.

Thank you to these talented and hardworking students, as well as Crew and Media Crew members for always working tirelessly to ensure our events are successful. Please see below for a link to a video of the assembly.

<https://www.facebook.com/grcpeakhurst/videos/749474955757158>



### ANZAC Day Video Presentation

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1L6bHnkm9F4>

We look forward to organising more events and activities for our school community this term, including our induction of Year 7 SRC and other SRC members who were absent last term due to school representation at Zone Swimming as well as Australia's Biggest Morning Tea, in support of the Cancer Council. Please approach any member of the team if you would

like to assist. Fatima R, Cody J, Amelia S and Caitlin J are leading this initiative.

Please feel free to bring any ideas you have for our school to your SRC members to bring up in our meetings (or utilise the suggestion box) for any ideas you may have in celebrating and appreciating our school community!

Enjoy Term 2!

**Miss Osmond**  
**SRC Coordinator**

## TAS

Term 2 is going to be another productive term for students in TAS.

Soon, Year 7 and 8 Technology classes will undertake a rotation to a new unit of the course. This will mean that the students timetable will change. Students will remain in the same technology class but their rooms and teachers will change.

As we come to the conclusion of this rotation, students have yet again amazed us with the quality of the projects they have produced. For instance,

- Year 7 Textiles have created wonderful cushions
- Year 7 Digital Technology have been coding with arduinos
- Year 7 Food and Agriculture have been growing herbs and learning to prepare a healthy meal
- Year 8 Food and Agriculture have designed a recipe book and prepared a dinner meal
- Year 8 Engineering students have designed cute moveable toys



- Year 8 Materials have designed wooden LED lamps.

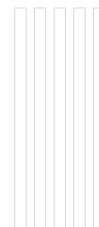
Our elective classes also have been busy with Year 9 and 10 Food Technology starting off new units this term. Year 9 are examining current food trends while Year 10 are examining the food service and catering industry. Indeed some of these students attended a workshop training day where they learnt to make different types of coffees and also gained a certificate for their achievement which allows them to find work in the food service and catering industry as a barista.



Year 10 Timber have been making footstools while Year 9 Timber are starting utility boxes. Year 9 Design and Technology

are completing their logos unit while Year 10 Design and Technology are almost finished producing their transport systems.

In addition to cooking each week, support classes have been working in other areas within TAS. Last term they made soft cuddly bears where they learnt to sew on the sewing machine as well as learning how to hand sew buttons. This term, support students are moving into the timber workshop where they will learn to use hand tools and machines such as the drill press and disc sander to construct their own cutting boards to use in the kitchen.



A reminder that students are required to be wearing enclosed leather shoes while they are in the workshop. This is a requirement of the Department of Education. Students are also expected to bring in an apron and container from home when undertaking food practicals.

**Rosalie Gualtieri**  
**Head Teacher TAS.**

## VET

Vocation Education and Training in Schools (VETiS)

Our students in Business Services Administration have been busy completing their first Cluster assessment task. The task involved students applying an understanding of WHS principles in the workplace along with identifying the growing need for personal protection equipment. to complete a WHS checklist within the school grounds. This comprised of identifying safety and exit signs, positioning of fire hydrants, electrical safety switches being compliant, trip hazards and the importance of practising fire drills!!

In addition to their learning, students are also completing practical tasks such as learning to laminate posters and labels, collating and organising newsletters into PL groups and distributing accordingly.

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As the term progresses, our students will move towards developing their skills in touch typing and continued use of computer software.

**Mrs Deborah Vlachos**  
**VET Teacher**

## Aboriginal Education

**Respectfully acknowledging and embracing the Bidjdeggle Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians and cultural knowledge holders of this land on which I live and work.**

Welcome to term 2, I hope everyone is safe and well. At the end of last term the Aboriginal students took part in Georges River

Council Graffiti Prevention project. Their efforts were very much appreciated and promoted through both:

The National Tribune - 12 April 2021

The Leader

### **Graffiti free Georges River – an ideal urban oasis**

24 – 48 hours is usually how swift Georges River Council is to clean up unwanted graffiti and tagging in the streets of Sydney's south, making it one of the most efficient cityscape cleansing teams, even by international standards. Each year, Council actions some 2,000 graffiti removal and cleansing requests, a large proportion of which is proactive work. Council also spends more than 2,200 hours, around \$90,000 in labour and materials, removing graffiti in Georges River neighbourhoods.

Since mid-2020, residents have been able to submit removal requests directly to Council's maintenance reporting system, Log It / Fix It. The requests include graffiti on walls, street furniture, utility boxes and shop fronts, and even peeling off stickers from traffic signs. Evidence shows it is more effective to prevent unwanted graffiti by encouraging creation of public art and plant-based green screens.

As a part of this year's Graffiti Removal Day campaign, Council offered support to local schools and social groups for graffiti removal projects by providing clean-up kits and in-kind materials for green screens. Following an expression of interest (EOI) process earlier this year, Georges River College Peakhurst was selected to create a new green screen on campus to prevent graffiti near the school hall.

Last week, in a bid to prevent unwanted graffiti and tagging, 14 students from the College's Years 7 to 10 took proactive measures on campus. Together with Council's Engineering Operations Officers, the students revamped an area on campus where a storage shipping container was proving to be eyesore. The group utilised equipment, plants and paint provided by Council. Twelve Lilly Pilly 'Northern star' trees and 12 'Katrina' native grass were then planted to create a green screen. The students plan to pick Lilly Pilly berries as they grow and make jam in the coming years.

Georges River Council Mayor Kevin Greene said, "I am extremely proud of the ongoing efforts of Georges River College Peakhurst teachers, students as well as our staff, to keep our neighbourhoods graffiti-free. "We want to take proactive measures, such as creating sustainable green screens and artistic murals, to remind people that collaborations between the community and Council can elevate our local outdoor dining areas, footpaths and shops, making Georges River a real urban oasis."

The students are continuing to enjoy a free breakfast and lunch on a Tuesday morning courtesy of NCIE team from Redfern. The team has invited the students to attend the NCIE once a term to take part in activities and come together as a group to make lifelong friendships.

**Ms Michelle Seinor**  
**Aboriginal Educational Coordinator**

## Careers

### **GRC Peakhurst Careers Lessons for Year 10**

GRC has continued with the careers program this term with a special focus on Subject Selection for the Year 10 cohort. The program helps students consider their subject selection pattern of study for their future senior years, at school. Course selection considerations for the Preliminary and HSC should include:

- Abilities
- Interests/Motivation
- Career aspirations and needs
- Syllabus requirements - Practical/Major work components
- Subject combinations
- Other commitments.

Students can revise their lessons located in their Google Classroom for careers by going to:

Google Classroom - Classwork - Assignment – searching the Careers Lesson by number or by Term and Week delivery. Further useful information is located at the GRC Peakhurst careers website at the following link:

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

With both the Google classroom and website, careers related information, can be accessed online. All students need to register to access information on the website. To register as a GRC Peakhurst student firstly go to FOR STUDENTS -> STUDENT'S SECURE AREA -> REGISTER. Please keep these details in a safe place. YOUR EMAIL is your USERNAME and remember the PASSWORD (Write it down somewhere safe so that you can refer to it).

Parents should also explore the website in order to better support their child.

GRC will update the google classroom and careers website with helpful careers related information, and newly listed career opportunities.

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#### ***Ms. Arfanis in action teaching careers***

As always, Ms Arfanis is happy to discuss any aspect of subject selection with individual students or families. Please get in touch if you would like to meet at any point. She looks forward to working with all students and families in the months ahead to help them make the decisions to set each student up for successful senior study.

**Subject Selection Preparation for Year 10 students** is underway, as mentioned. It kicked off with careers lessons in Term 1, whereby students were directed to a number of sites to prepare them and inform them about subjects on offer for the senior years at GRC Oatley Campus, with 90 subject choices made available to them, to choose from, in 2022. All this information is located in the Google Classroom.

All Year 10 students are to complete a Google Form titled Pre Subject Selection Year 10 Career Profile ASAP at the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oaUwptO-CMJwzmU9VBAhwtqUWNVDQrKMFaWPxXyitLM/edit>

Year 10 students are also required to go to the Job Jump website at the link below:

<https://georges-river-peakhurst.jobjump.com.au/>

Register as Georges River College Peakhurst student; (Password: Peakhurst2210)

Select "Subjects " link and consider what occupation you primarily think about doing when you finish school (More than one is OK). Be aware that you need to copy and paste this information into your google form, titled *Pre Subject Selection Year 10 Career Profile*.

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### *Ms. Arfanis teaching careers to other Year 10 students*

A number of universities will run Subject Selection evenings online or face to face. It is recommended that you attend one of these sessions if your child is interested in going to university in the future.

For example, the University of Newcastle 2021 Online parent info session: Year 10 subject selection is on 25 May, at 6pm to 7pm. Student ambassadors will share key subject selection information and share their stories and experiences with subject selection and transition to university studies.

Presentation topics:

- Subject selection process (our 3 simple steps on how to select your subjects)
- Subject selection resources, case studies and examples.
- What if I don't know what I want to do or change my mind?
- What course can you study at the University of Newcastle? (campuses, faculties etc.)
- Differences between school life and university life (life as a student, timetables etc.)
- Pathways to University
- Ask a Student platform

The session will run for approximately 40 minutes with 15 minutes for Q&A. Parents and students can ask questions throughout the presentation. Register at the link below:

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/events/future-students/2021-yr-10-subject-selection-parent-info-session>

Furthermore, some universities publish guides to assist Year 10 students in making choices for their course. If your child is interested in going to a particular university, look at their website for these guides. For example, the University of Sydney has a Year 10 Guide. It's time to start thinking about the future and how studying a dream course at the University of Sydney can turn potential interests into a career. To get into some of USyd courses, you will need to choose certain subjects in Years 11 and 12, which are prerequisites for admission. In addition to prerequisites, many of our courses also have assumed knowledge subject requirements to consider in your

subject selection. That's why it is important to start preparing now. Go to the link below:

<https://www.sydney.edu.au/content/dam/corporate/document/s/study/guides/usyd-year-10-guide.pdf>

Study Work Grow have released a new Subject Selection Calculator that helps students match their interests with up to 6 career categories that could suit them. It's a fun way of helping them think about subjects based on their career options, rather than just for their ATAR. Try it now for free at the link below:

<https://studyworkgrow.com.au/subject-selection-calculator/>

As part of the transition process to GRC Oatley Campus, a Subject Information Day was held early in Term 2. Staff from GRC Oatley Campus provided advice regarding course content, assessment, resource requirements, time considerations and particular attributes needed to achieve success in each subject.

This will be followed by course taster classes at GRC Oatley Campus during Term 2 Week 5.

This is an opportunity for students to experience senior classes in action. We hope that students will gain an understanding of senior subjects and expectations of the senior school culture and thereby lead to a smoother transition into Year 11 in 2022.

You can also go to the website for more information about KLA's and subjects on offer at GRC Oatley Campus, go to the Oatley Senior Campus Moodle at the link below:

<https://web2.oatleysnr-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/moodle/>

Step 1: Go to the Oatley Senior Campus Moodle

<https://web2.oatleysnr-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/moodle/>

Step 2: Click on Oatley.

Step 3: Click on Students.

Step 4: Click on Student Transition Program.

Step 5: Login with your Portal username and password.

Step 6: Click on enrol me

Step 7: Scroll down to select which Presentation you would like to watch.

Choose your Presentation by clicking on the Play triangle.

On **Tuesday 15th June, a HSC / Subject Selection Information Evening** for Georges River College students & parents will take place **at GRC Oatley Campus from 7pm to 8pm.**

Staff from the GRC Oatley Campus will be providing advice regarding NESA requirements around the Higher School Certificate and subject selection for Stage 6. **This event is compulsory for students and parents to attend.** It is critical that students are provided with consistent information regarding courses, so that they not only choose courses that they like and are capable of achieving success in but courses that will gain them the qualifications to which they aspire. Once students begin a course in Year 11, it is very difficult to change to another course, as available spaces are limited and NESA requires a certain number of hours of study to successfully

complete the Year 11 Record of School Achievement which is a prerequisite for study in Year 12.

On Tuesday 22nd June – GRC Oatley Senior Campus will run a Curriculum Expo at GRC Oatley from 4pm to 7pm.

GRC Oatley Campus will be providing detailed information about the courses on offer for Stage 6. Parents and students will have the opportunity to visit the site, ask specific questions about course content, skills and major works.

Importantly, students need to return all the paperwork provided to you on Tuesday 15th June, a HSC / Subject Selection Information Evening to Ms Arfanis, Careers Advisor by **Friday 23rd July, 9am. This is the final date/time for submission of Year 11 2022 subject selection forms to be eligible to go to GRC Oatley Senior Campus.**

**Kicking off on Monday 2nd August to Friday 6th August, Year 10 Subject Selection Interviews will take place with Oatley Campus Staff at the Peakhurst Campus.** (Interview Roster to be distributed early Term 3.)

Finally, on Tuesday 23rd November, GRC Oatley Senior Campus Orientation Day will take place.

### ACU Impact

ACU Impact is packed with articles published by ACU such as 'How to Decide on a Uni (When you can't visit a campus)?' As universities shift to online classes to curtail the spread of the coronavirus, the usual campus visits and Open Days may be suspended. Things are changing fast, so it's important to check in with the university of interest regularly, but most of the usual opportunities to visit a campus in person are temporarily off the table. The good news is: none of this means you can't keep taking positive steps towards choosing a university in the future. Here are some tips for gathering information in the time of social distancing. Go to the link below:

<https://www.impact.acu.edu.au/future-student/how-to-decide-on-a-uni-when-you-cant-visit-the-campus?home=true>

### National Careers Week on 17 - 23 May 2021

The Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA) are running an annual careers event with lots of different ways for Careers Advisors and schools to get involved. You can find out more and see events all over Australia by going to the link below:

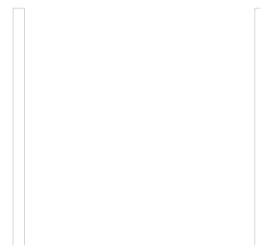
<https://careersweek.com.au/>

### 2021 EVET for Year 10 students

The following students were successful in getting into an Externally delivered Vocational Education and Training (EVET) Stage 5 course with TAFE NSW, over Terms 2 and 3.

They are:

- Marcus C, Charlie A, Donald L, Luka D and Jordan M in Automotive at Ultimo
- Tiana M, Ronald F, Jackson M, Sasha D and Natasha P in Hospitality at Loftus.



*Luka D & Jordan M Marcus C & Charlie A*



*Tiana M & Ronald F & Natasha P*

Once students successfully complete the course of their choice, they will receive an accreditation recognised by Australians Qualifications Framework (AQF), at Certificate 1 level. These students will attend TAFE one day a week, up to 100 hours (approximately two terms). The Certificate 1 courses are fully subsidised by the government and free to the students, valued at approximately \$1,500 each.

### School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship (SBAT)

Students who are thinking of undertaking an SBAT while they undertake the HSC, next year, should start to seek out employers to work with for this opportunity, throughout this year.

If YOU are in Year 10 and would like to learn more about an SBAT for 2022 and 2023, please speak to Ms Arfanis and we can seek out an appropriate host employer, as work experience, to increase your chances of success. Known employers who are keen to take on students for SBATs include:

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

If you are aware of any employers keen to employ an apprentice or trainee, please inform Ms Arfanis of their details.

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

**Ms Toni Arfanis**  
**Careers Advisor**

## LIBRARY

### □ Year 7 Information Literacy Classes

Term 2 has started with a bang. I've had year 7 classes coming in to sharpen their research and library skills by pairing up to play an online **digital escape room** game. Students looked at how fiction and nonfiction books are organised in the library, what is found in different nonfiction sections, types of reference

resources, the steps in research assignments, types of literature genres and more. Each successful task gave them a code to use to assist in escaping.

The students who reached the end to “break out” of the library were the following:

**7 yellow** – Corbin M, Xavier M, Hayson W, Isabel B, Chris W and James B

**7 violet** – Emma W, Claudia D, Mya W, Ava G, Tahlia C, Abigail M, Lillian K, Madinah H, Leila B, Kendall V and Alp K.

**7 orange** – Liam H, Tenzer P and Zane C

**7 green** – Leila S, Lucas H, Jasneet C, Avinash B, Amina V and Elle V.

**7 red** – William M, James W, Brandon T, Andrew T, Anna F, Keira P, Electra R, Daisy P, Evnosia M and Chloe W.

Congratulations to these students on achieving these bragging rights! All of the students were excited and rushing to try to finish first, but some classes did not break out of the library! It was a fun way for me to see which skills they knew already and which ones we needed to focus on. In the next fortnight, they will be on a **scavenger hunt** in the library to apply their library and research skills.

## Social Media

The library has a new Instagram page so follow us @grcpeakhurstlibrary for student photos, event promotions, book blurbs and reviews, competitions and more.

## Upcoming Library Author Visit

The library will be offering a **workshop** for students with Matthew Lin, a **MANGA** author and illustrator. Matthew will lead the students through his creative process and show them how Manga is written. Manga is a popular type of graphic novel that sprung from Japan and has exploded into the mainstream with young adults especially over the last few decades. Manga is read from back to front and has distinct-looking characters and monsters in the books. Students learn how to draw the various characters and how to create dialogue speech bubbles for what the characters are saying or thinking. Matthew will show the students how to create an illustrated **narrative**. We will be offering the workshop to any student interested with sign up on a first come/first served basis until our limited number of spots are filled. Students may sign up in the library at the circulation desk. **The workshop is scheduled for period 3 on Friday 11 June.**

## Blind Date with a Book promotion

The library is running an exciting promotion in order to get students to not judge a book by its cover and to try different types of books outside of their comfort zones. Here in the library, we want students to try to **read widely**, across many genres (types of books). With Blind Date with a Book, students are encouraged to take home a wrapped book, unwrap it and try at least 30 pages of it. In this way, students who say, “I don’t like Fantasy” can actually try a book of that genre with many realising that they actually do like the story. We say that the

books are single and ready to mingle so invite the students to come by the library to find their perfect match!

## May the Fourth Be With You!

The library is celebrating Star Wars Day with a special display featuring Star Wars books as well as other SCI FI (Science Fiction) and Fantasy books. Don’t go to the dark side! Become a reading Jedi by borrowing one of these fantastic books!

**Elizabeth Greaves**  
**Relieving Teacher Librarian**

## High Performing/Gifted Debating and Public Speaking Report May 2021

GRC Peakhurst staff and The Arts Unit have ensured that their valuable extra-curricular student opportunities for debating and public speaking have continued for 2021 and have consistently provided updates and resources for our school community.

We are proud to be hosting the Plain English Speaking Award – Local Final on Thursday 6th May in our school library. Two of our own Year 10 students (Alivia B and Zac H) will compete at this competition against students aged 15-18 years of age from a range of other Sydney Region schools. They should both be congratulated for taking the initiative in participating in this senior competition.

Our after school debating and public speaking workshops continue in Term 2 each Wednesday afternoon after Sport, in Room E0.08 from 2.30pm-3.30pm. These sessions are open to all students who would like to work on their speaking skills. We have begun to select teams and participants for our formal competitions, so please visit the English staffroom for more information. Our public speaking students also look forward to planning our training day and leading our Primary Links debating day with local feeder primary schools. Our Year 10 Debaters (Alivia B, Zac H, Aliyah J, Emma M and Chloe S) should be commended on facilitating these training sessions and taking on additional responsibilities. They are exceptional role models and are building a range of skills within our debating/public speaking student group.

Your best contacts in the English staffroom are as follows:

Public Speaking Competitions and after school Wednesday workshops - Miss Osmond

<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/legacy-junior-public-speaking-award-0>

<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/public-speaking/plain-english-speaking-award>

Year 9&10 Debating Teams - Miss Ali/Miss Rossenrode

<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/premiers-debating-challenge>

Year 7&8 Debating - Miss Osmond/Mrs Campbell



<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/premiers-debating-challenge>

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

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

**Miss Osmond**  
**Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator**

## NAPLAN

**NAPLAN will again be held in May  
for Year 7 and Year 9 students.**

### GRC Peakhurst Campus 2021 NAPLAN Timetable

<b>Tuesday</b> <b>11 May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Language Conventions</li><li>• Writing</li></ul>	Period 1 - 2	Year 7
		Period 3 - 4	Year 9
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>12 May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reading</li></ul>	Period 1	Year 7
		Period 3	Year 9
<b>Thursday</b> <b>13 May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Numeracy Calculator</li><li>• Numeracy Non-calculator</li></ul>	Period 1	Year 7
		Period 3	Year 9
<b>Friday</b> <b>14 May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Catch-up Day</li></ul>	Both years and tests, as required	

All Year 9 Students need to ensure they are at school by 8:30am on all exam days.

Your child should be prepared for all these tests.

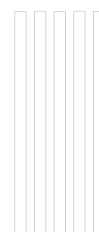
#### Assist your child by ensuring that he/she

- brings a HB pencil and a black ballpoint pen
- brings an eraser and sharpener with shavings catcher
- **a working calculator on Thursday 13th 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

## Wellbeing Team Report

### Our Day

On Friday 19th March, we celebrated our second whole school Wellbeing Day, Our Day. The day aimed to raise awareness and celebrate numerous national events such as International Women's Day, Harmony Day, Crazy Hair Day and the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence and was aligned to the national curriculum – personal and social capabilities. Throughout the day, students participated in a range of practical activities, as well as taking part in workshops and sessions run by guest speakers. Some of those guest speakers included Daniel Merza, Kate Fitzsimons, young ladies from Karitane and the 3Bridges Team. From all reports, students had a fun, informative day whilst getting to work together and build social and emotional skills.



### PEAK Learning

As part of the Peak Learning (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 Westfield gift voucher to the value of \$20. Two students from each year group who have submitted their merit certificates into the draw will have the opportunity to win a gift card. All students are encouraged to submit their merit certificates for an opportunity to win a gift card.

Congratulations to the following students who were successful in the mid Term 1 merit draw:

**Year 7** – Anna-Maria P/ Emma W  
**Year 8** – Labiba A/ Maddison P  
**Year 9** – Mehmood K/ Tanisha S  
**Year 10** – Lachlan M/ Nabeel Z

Congratulations also to the following students who were successful in the end of Term 1 merit draw:

**Year 7** – Abbie C/ Caitlen S  
**Year 8** – Ai K/ Calos L  
**Year 9** – Elyssia H/ Mehmood K  
**Year 10** – Olivia B/ Abbey R

### Parenting Ideas

Georges River College Peakhurst Campus has a subscription to 'Parenting Ideas', which includes fantastic articles and webinars on a range of important issues and topics related to parenting. In every school newsletter, I will endeavour to include some articles for you to read and some of those articles have links attached to a webinar. As we are a subscribing school, for our parents, most of those webinars will incur no cost, so be sure to check them out!

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

- Managing Anxiety Before It Becomes A Problem
- Young People, We Need To Talk
- Establishing Digital Boundaries For The Screen Generation

## **Easter Egg Competition**

Thank you to our school community for supporting the Easter Egg Competition. All funds raised are being donated to 3 Bridges Hurstville who play a large role in our school. Congratulations to the following winners;

### **Hamper Winners**

**Year 10** - Charlie A

**Year 9** – Fatima R

**Year 8** – Sam Alexis S

**Year 7** – Emma W

### **Guessing competition**

Zane T

Dane M



## **International Women's Day**

Unfortunately this year we weren't able to attend the International Women's Day but were lucky enough to watch it virtually on the big screen whilst enjoying a lovely morning tea to celebrate the achievements of inspirational women world wide. Thankyou Pandora and Nell for your recount of the day. Please click on the links below to view the photos and feedback from the day.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/npP1sLMK6WyVzYKYA>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WM7uiKQidt6Ey4ZyigDjFmFiv0TmP4Ldue3mgkdPfRQ/edit?usp=sharing>

## **PCYC News**

Congratulations to Jackson M, Marxus P and Oliver F for placing 2nd in the combined PCYC Oztag Football competition at Marrackville during the holidays. They are to be commended on their commitment and attitude during the day. Well done boys!

## **Breakfast Club**

**Yippee!!** Due to covid restrictions being lifted we are now able to return to having breakfast in the room. Breakfast Club runs on Wednesday & Thursday mornings from 7.45am in A0.11. We provide cheesy rolls, milkshakes, cereal and fruit. All are welcome!

***Julia Picone and Michelle Seidel***  
***Head Teacher Wellbeing***