



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

Email: [peakhurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:peakhurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
 Phone: 02 9153 9966  
 Fax: 02 9534 6346



6 August 2021

## PRINCIPALS REPORT

Well Term 3 did not begin as any of us would have liked. We had anticipated towards the end of term 2 that there may have been an impending lockdown period and the school had begun preparing for this situation. I believe this has allowed a smooth transition to Learning from Home. Thank you to parents, carers, students and staff for the feedback and suggestions you have provided. We are able to act on this feedback and ensure the experience is the best it can be for students and staff alike. With Georges River Local Government Area now being one of the identified LGAs, it is of even more importance to follow the NSW Government guidelines to ensure safety for all. I want to thank all the families who have continued to support our community by keeping their children at home to minimise movement in the community. If your child is able to be educated from home, please keep them at home. There is minimal supervision on site at our school for those students who cannot be educated at home or whose parents or carers are essential workers.

We appreciate that with our students learning from home, the students are missing the interactions they would have with others every day. We have taken on board some wonderful feedback from our SRC leaders, who continue to meet online twice a week.

We have put some things into place to support our students such as the Kick Back google classroom at recess and lunch, increased use of live platforms (Zoom, MS Teams etc) within each lesson, group work, year meetings and Stage 4 & 5 school assemblies. We want to ensure that students and staff can feel connected during the learning from home period. We will continue to integrate strategies throughout this period to allow for a positive experience for everyone and maximise engagement with learning as well as student and staff wellbeing.

Some other pieces of information for you to be aware of in relation to Learning from Home:

- If students need assistance with any of their work, they should ask their classroom teacher in the google classroom either in the chat stream or by a private message.
- If they feel like they need some extra assistance, they can log into the Learning Enhancement google classroom for their year group
- The COVID intensive learning support program is still running for those students involved with literacy, numeracy or reading.
- All faculties are now looking at programs and making some adjustments so that the learning can be better suited to Learning from Home. Naturally, this will have a flow on effect to assessments. Teachers will be notifying students of any changes to the assessment schedule, including variation to the nature of tasks or cancellation of tasks.
- For all students in stage 5 but particularly Year 10, completion of work is of paramount importance to demonstrate sustained effort and achievement of coursework and outcomes that allow them to qualify for the ROSA. Any student not demonstrating these things may receive an N Determination warning letter. If students keep up to date with their class work and submit any tasks required by their teachers, there won't be any issues.
- The Year 10 subject selection process is continuing, with interviews being held online this week.

I would like to give a big thank you to the GRC Peakhurst staff. The non-teaching staff are doing a great job of maintaining the school administration and finance while working from home. The teachers and support staff have stepped up enormously to ensure that all students continue to be part of interesting and engaging lessons. As you might imagine, staff workload has increased dramatically during this Learning from Home period and I really appreciate that they do this so generously and without complaint.

Education Week for 2021 was celebrated during week 3 (26 – 30 July). Education Week is an annual celebration of NSW Public Education and achievements of schools, students and the system. The theme this year was Lifelong Learners – celebrating the lifelong journey from pre early childhood learning through primary school, high school and into adulthood and further training. With staff and students not on site, we decided to celebrate our successes at GRC Peakhurst through social media. Each day there were posts from individual faculties. If you have not seen them yet, please jump on Facebook. While you are there take a look at the NSW Department of Education Facebook page – there are some fun Education Week posts and also videos, activities and resources there for you to access.

I hope you are taking the opportunity to watch and enjoy some of the Olympic Games coverage. I am certain we have some students who aspire to represent their country one day. I have some wonderful news to share about two of our former students; Michael Auprince and John McPhail. They will be representing Australia at the Paralympic Games in Tokyo in the coming weeks. They have been selected to be in the Australian Wheelchair Basketball team and we wish them all the very best for the competition. Make sure you look out for them and cheer them on.

**Ms Diane Wilson**  
**Principal**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPALS REPORT

We hope you are all well and doing your best to cope with the situation that Greater Sydney is experiencing at the moment. We'd also like to acknowledge the ongoing support we are receiving from our school community as we continue to grapple with the COVID situation.

The transition back to Learning from Home via Google Classrooms at the beginning of Term 3 was rapid and again, we would like to acknowledge our wonderful teachers who have had to quickly adapt and change their mode of teaching. They have done this with great professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment. We would also like to thank you for all the positive messages that are regularly being sent to the school and thank you for continuing to support your child/ren in accessing Learning from Home. Learning from Home is not easy – even at the best of times. GRC Peakhurst staff acknowledge the great work that parents are doing at home in sometimes very difficult circumstances to ensure that their child/ren continue with their education.

To ensure all students have an opportunity to engage with online learning at home, we want to provide some flexibility for students to engage in their work at a time that suits them and their family. Ideally, students should try to be online during their timetabled lesson – accessing Google Classroom (as this is when their teacher is also online with their class), however, if they happen to be sharing a device with other family members, this may not necessarily be possible each day. Therefore, to allow some flexibility, staff are uploading work into the Google Classroom between 8am and 9am each morning to allow students without access to a device full time to complete their

work at a time that suits them during the day. There is still an expectation that the work is completed and submitted, however at a time convenient for the student or their family.

We recognise the additional pressure that Learning from Home places on students and their families. In an attempt to reduce this and to differentiate for all students, staff at GRC Peakhurst will deliver task instructions in three categories as outlined below.

- **Must Do** referring to the minimum amount a student needs to do to meet some of the task outcomes.
- **Should Do** referring to the ideal amount a student needs to do to meet most task outcomes, and
- **Something Extra** referring to extension work that students can do to substantially demonstrate all task outcomes.

Aiming for Excellence is one of our core values and we encourage students to complete work from each category to the best of their ability where possible.

Students are not expected to participate in learning if they are unwell and as such will be marked as being on sick leave pending advice from parents or carers that the student is unwell. However, students who don't meet any participation requirements whilst Learning from Home without any explanation will be marked as absent. Students actively participating in online Learning from Home will be marked as present - flexible.

At GRC Peakhurst, we ask that you:

- phone or email the school if your child is unwell and unable to participate in their Google Classrooms, so that their leave can be recorded as sick for the day and so that staff are aware and know not to follow up on your child missing their class.

The NSW Department of Education acknowledges that ongoing assessment of student learning throughout term 2, will be important to enable teachers to provide feedback to students and guide their ongoing provision of appropriate learning tasks.

A wide range of assessment strategies can be used for students in Years 7-10 including:

- teacher observations of student responses during 'online' lessons
- student responses to tasks
- teacher/student/parent discussions – video/phone
- peer and self-assessment strategies including exit slips, digital polls or quick quizzes
- research tasks to demonstrate learning

Further advice in relation to assessment will continue to be shared with students and parents as the term goes on.

Whilst the current lockdown restrictions are in place, each year group will participate in a Wellbeing Zoom Meeting each Wednesday at 12.15pm. Zoom links for these meetings will be emailed to students and parents in the days leading up to the meeting.

On Tuesday 3rd August 2021 at 6pm, Year 8 students and their parents were invited to attend a Subject Selection Information Meeting via Zoom – outlining the procedures and processes in place for Year 8 students to select their Elective Subjects for 2022/2023. Students and parents will be emailed further information and links to complete online subject selections on Monday 9th August 2021. All online selections need to have been made by Friday 13th August 2021.

Year 10 students will shortly be participating in online interviews with GRC Oatley Staff to discuss their Year 11 subject selections for 2022. Students have been provided with a timetable outlining when their interview will take place and will be emailed a Zoom link on the morning of their interview. Students are encouraged to ensure they double check their interview day and ensure they are logged in ready for their interview at their allocated time. If there are any questions or queries relating to the Year 10 Subject Selection Interviews, please don't hesitate to contact Ms Arfanis (Careers Advisor) or Ms Favuzzi (Deputy Principal – Years 9 & 10).

**Julia Picone - Relieving Deputy Principal Year 7**

**Scott Wilson – Deputy Principal Year 8**

**Sophia Favuzzi - Acting Deputy Principal Years 9 & 10**

## Year 7 Advisor Report

Welcome back year 7 to a new and different term 3.

I would like to congratulate all students who have embraced their online learning platform. I know this is a challenging time, but I hope you all have found it easy to navigate. Even though we have changed the venue for learning, the outcome is still the same. Make sure you are attending your timetable classes as best as possible. Do your best to stay up to date with the tasks your teacher is posting. Also don't be afraid to ask for help from your teachers, they are online waiting to assist you with anything you need to make sure you are learning the best you can in this different setting. Thank you to all parents who are assisting their children with the difficult task of online learning, we wouldn't be as successful if it wasn't for you working hard behind the scene.

Away from learning, it is imperative that you are looking after yourself and each other. When at home, make a conscious effort to eat nutritiously, stay hydrated and make time for some form of physical activity each day. There are so many ways to stay connected - Take some time to check in on your friends and spend some time with your loved ones at home.

I would like to also remind students that there is a "Kick back" space which is available at recess and lunch, run by the Wellbeing team. This space allows students to communicate with each other and just "kick back" as the name suggests and socialise with their fellow peers in a safe and supervised environment.

I would like to again thank Year 7 for their efforts so far this term. Stay safe and feel free to contact me via email or phoning the school if you have any questions.

**Mr S. Kostas**

**Year 7 Student Advisor**

## Year 8 Advisor Report

Term 3 is certainly evolving as a challenging one for our children/families and community, one of which we have navigated through before and will do again. Parent teacher interviews went smoothly thank you for your understanding, although, it would have been wonderful to meet everyone face to face here's hoping this changes soon.

Congratulations to all year 8 students who have continued to work diligently through the first weeks of term 3 with strength and unity. I have some wonderful examples of work being submitted and will share these when we see each other again. As we continue to move forward into the coming weeks and through what is considered as the new normal it is important to be kind to yourself, work to the best of your ability aiming for excellence as you do this and follow the requested mandated health requirements.

A gentle reminder to all year 8 students regarding the importance of staying connected to their peers, teachers and support staff at school whilst you are learning from home. To assist in this process we have organised year group meetings through the ZOOM Platform. So this does not impact on your classes and organisation we have scheduled these for every **WEDNESDAY AT 12.15PM** whilst we are learning from home. During these meetings it is requested that you keep your **MICROPHONES TURNED OFF** out of respect for your teachers and peers as we have some information to share. The chat is also a place to communicate something you are concerned about or to ask questions. Please refrain from using this as a space to post inappropriate comments. As we are all respectful and responsible, I am not envisaging this to be a problem.

You should have by now received your subject selection booklets, I encourage you to think carefully about selecting your subjects as they run for a 2 year period and so your decision should be focused on those that are of real interest, you have or would like to further develop your skills in and that you will enjoy over that period. You will also receive some information regarding subject selection evening which will be held next Tuesday 3 August 2021 at 6pm via ZOOM.

Finally from me

Make a list of positive aspects

Make a list of the things you love

Never complain about anything.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Ms M Seiner**

**Year 8 Student Advisor**

## Year 9 Advisor Report

I would like to start by welcoming you all to Term 3, it has surely turned out to be a challenging start to the term for our students and school community.

I would also like to congratulate and commend our students that have continued to work through their schoolwork in Google



Classroom and reach out to their teachers when needed. Thank you to the parents and carers that have also assisted with their child's learning, I am sure it has not been easy to juggle all these new roles at home. As we are now aware learning online will continue for another 4 weeks, please ensure all students continue to access Google Classroom and attempt the work set for them. With the current updates, our staff will begin to include more interactive lessons that may include Zoom calls and videos set up by the class teacher. If you have questions, please remember to contact your teachers directly, if you are missing any emails or codes, please feel free to contact me on [mariam.haidar2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:mariam.haidar2@det.nsw.edu.au)

## Kickback Google Classroom

Our school SRC, Wellbeing Team along with 3Bridges have set up a Google Classroom called 'Kickback'. This Google Classroom aims to provide students with a platform to interact with one another while also providing them with daily challenges and activities. The head teacher wellbeing Michelle Seidel will also be on daily to check in with students and provide wellbeing support. Our school's youth workers from 3Bridges Larra and Merv will also be online every Recess and Lunch to interact with students.

**The code is: ucs4yge**

## Attendance and Classwork

From week 3 all class teachers will be uploading lessons for the day from 8:30 and students will have till 6pm to complete tasks for the day before rolls are marked. Please be mindful that while teachers are online, they will still be following their class timetable and may not be available to answer questions until that timetabled class. If your child is sick and is unable to attend lessons for the day, please contact the school so that rolls can be updated.

## Year Meetings

Starting from week 4, I will be running a Year 9 meeting every Wednesday at 12:15pm following period 3. Students will receive an email with the Zoom link every Monday. All students are expected to attend the Zoom meeting, as I will be updating them with announcements and most importantly checking in with them. It is also a positive way for students to interact with one another while in lockdown. Please ensure your child is checking their emails daily for other important updates.

## Loaning a Device

If your child does not have a device that they are able to work from, please refer to the form sent by the school in weeks 1 & 2. Upon filling in the form, the school will contact you on when will be the best time for you to come and borrow a device from the school. If you do not have access to the email from the school, please contact the school to organise a device to loan out.

If you or your child have any questions, please feel free to email me.

Stay Safe and take care of yourselves!

**Ms M. Haidar**

**Year 9 Student Advisor**

**[Mariam.haidar2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Mariam.haidar2@det.nsw.edu.au)**

## Year 10 Advisor Report

Welcome back to all year 10 students.

Well done to all students who have embraced their online learning platform – hopefully you have found it a lot easier to navigate since last year. While we are learning from home, make sure you continue to follow your timetable. It is important that you try your best to stay up to date with the work your teachers are posting. Please utilise your teachers – they are available to assist with any questions you may have related to your coursework. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents once again for assisting your children with their online learning.

Away from learning, it is imperative that you are looking after yourself and each other. When at home, make a conscious effort to eat nutritiously, stay hydrated and make time for some form of physical activity each day. There are so many ways to stay connected - Take some time to check in on your friends and spend some time with your loved ones at home.

During week 2, all parents and students should have received the final note for the year 10 formal. The school formal has not been cancelled at this stage, and hopefully we will be able to go ahead and have a great night in December as planned. If you did not receive the email, please let me know and I will be happy to send it through again.

Lastly, year 10 have been receiving many emails from the Careers Advisor, Deputy Principals and myself. Please ensure your child is regularly checking their emails to ensure they are up to date with the latest information.

I would like to again thank Year 10 for their diligent efforts so far this term. Stay safe and feel free to contact me via email or phoning the school if you have any questions.

**Mrs Fotini Tzoumas**

**Year 10 Student Advisor**

## FACULTY NEWS

### HSIE

Teachers of the HSIE faculty send their best wishes to students, parents and loved ones during this difficult time.

### Studies in HSIE in Semester 2

Semester 2 has seen Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 HSIE students changing over from their studies in History to Geography.

Year 7 began Term 3 with an introductory unit on basic mapping skills (BOLTS). Students have been tasked to develop and upload their own map creation, to demonstrate their understanding and application of the essential features of every good map (Border, Orientation, Legend, Title and Scale). In addition, students will complete a series of online questions relating to fundamental mapping skills. We look forward to determining the prize winners for the HSIE Map-Makers Wall of fame and will send out virtual certificates for great map creations. Prize winners will also have their BOLTS maps showcased in the next issue of this newsletter.

Year 8 began their studies in Geography with a core topic on 'Water in the World. This unit, with a range of geographical skills embedded within the content, will continue into the beginning of Term 4. Meanwhile, Year 9 HSIE began their studies with the 'Changing Places' topic. Year 10 began their studies in Geography during Term Two and are in the process of completing the 'Human Wellbeing' topic before moving onto a core unit on 'Environmental Change and Management'.

## Year 9 History Elective gets to know the Aztecs!

During Term 2, Year 9 History Elective students spent the term gaining a deep understanding of the Aztec civilisation, a society who is best known for their predilection for human sacrifice and their subsequent annihilation by the Spanish Conquistadors.

Students worked through a portfolio task, where they were able to choose from a variety of literacy, technology, artistic and practical tasks to demonstrate their research, understanding and ability to apply and present their learning at regular stages throughout the term.

Some of the activities included:

- Create a museum exhibition on the Aztecs Sarita M.
- Develop a café menu using only the foods the Aztecs had available.
- Bonus points for cooking one of the dishes.
- Brianna S., Amelia S., Callum D. Ethan T



- Write lyrics for a song about Aztec human sacrifice. Bonus points for recording the song.
- Daniel M

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/19nEpaOI2EW6FI14mC3LGRV\\_u1rVtVwvfb/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19nEpaOI2EW6FI14mC3LGRV_u1rVtVwvfb/view?usp=drivesdk)

- Laura W.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1za83H1QR1xOi\\_UHvICri0aYDwNW9zWSI/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1za83H1QR1xOi_UHvICri0aYDwNW9zWSI/view?usp=drivesdk)

- Choose any medium to discuss whether the occurrence of human sacrifice was exaggerated by the Spanish.
- Daniel M. .

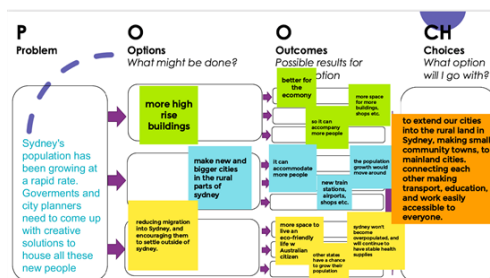
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## HSIE faculty and online teaching and learning

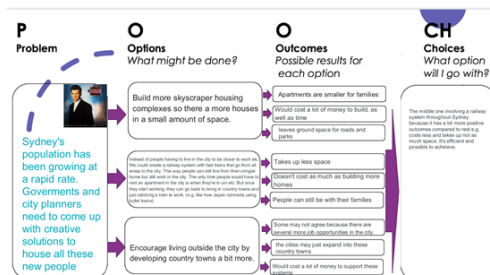
The HSIE faculty has been working tirelessly over recent weeks to provide highly engaging, effective and collaborative teaching and learning experiences while students are engaging in online learning.

Student examples of online learning experiences include:

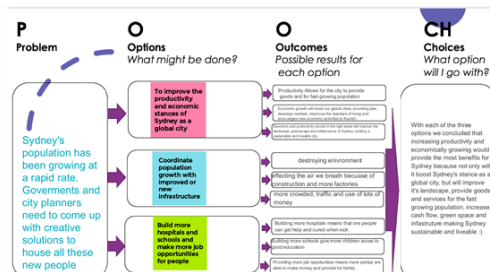
## Victoria G

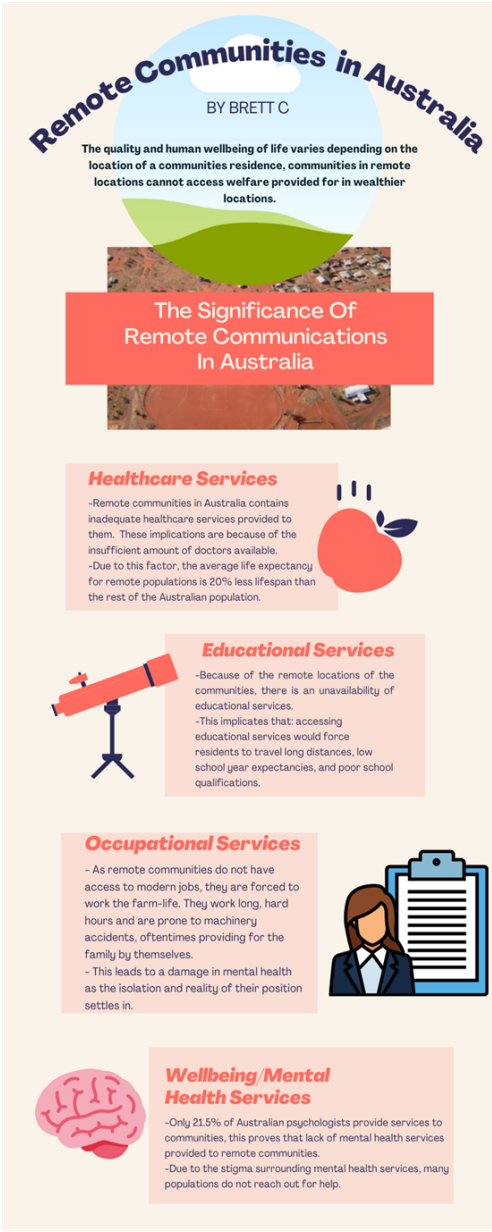


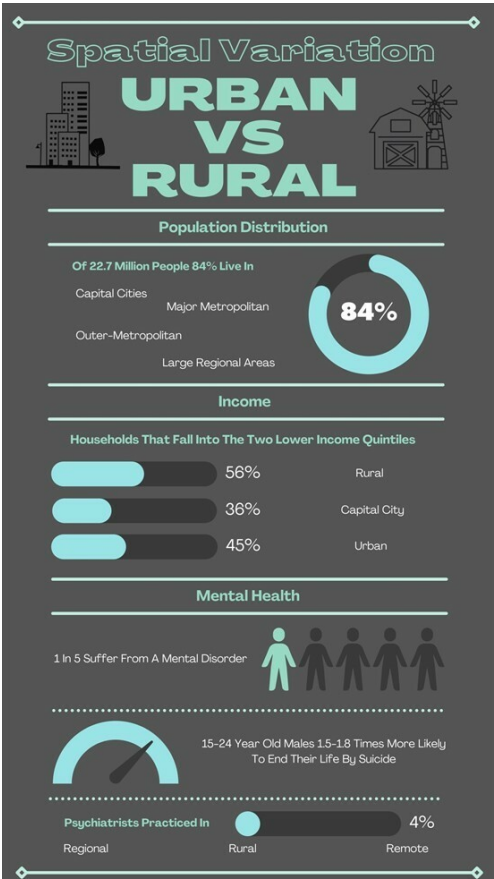
## Caitlin J., Zoe B. and Amelia S.



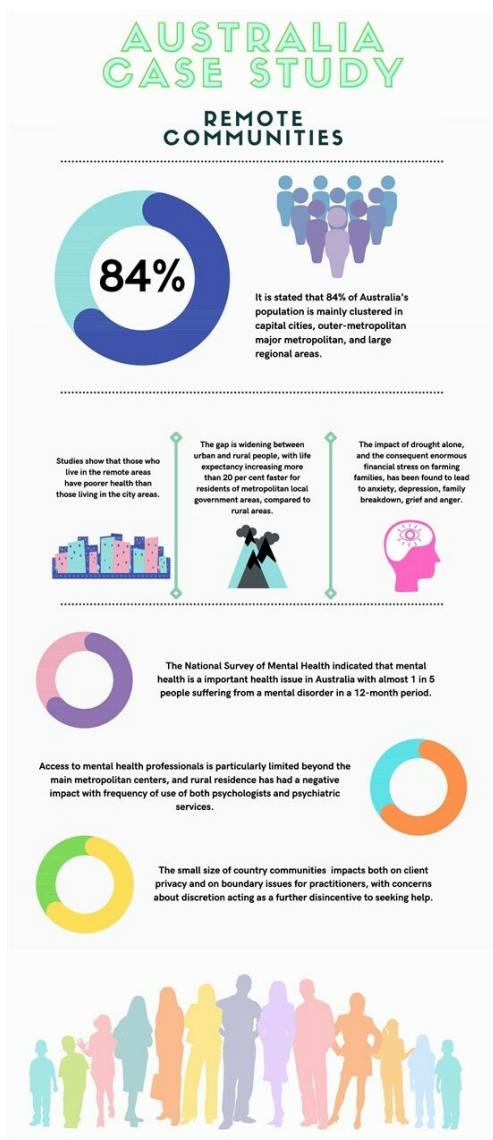
## Jessie T., Silby C. Elle-Maree H.











We wish you all the best for the coming weeks and hope that we will have our students back in class soon.

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

## PDHPE REPORT

### Learning from home:

The PDHPE faculty would like to thank students and their parents for their continued efforts with online learning. During such a challenging period for all, it is very pleasing to see students engaged and interacting online to further their learning. Students are reminded to follow their normal school timetable across the day, including breaks. During periods of PDHPE/PASS, students are provided with activities to complete both theory and practical tasks which can be completed safely from the comfort of your own home. Should students require any support, they are encouraged to message their teachers directly on Google Classroom so they can be supported.

With lockdowns continuing to disrupt almost every aspect of Australians' lives, including our physical activity routines – like going to the gym, playing team sports or even walking with a

group of friends, it is a timely reminder to consider being active where possible. For students, their practical lessons are great opportunities to be active which contributes to the maintenance of good health. Regular exercise reaps not only many physical benefits, but it's also been proven to help our state of mind – which is so important in these challenging times.

### PASS Camp:

In light of the current situation, guidelines and restrictions placed upon the community and Department of Education schools, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 Year 9 and 10 PASS Camp. The camp was meant to take place at the Great Aussie Bush Camp - Kincumber during Week 6 of this term from Wednesday 18th August - Friday 20th August.

We have been in contact with the camp for the past few days and unfortunately, due to the unpredictability of the current situation and the minimal available dates left for 2021, we have been unable to re-schedule the camp for this year.

All students due to attend the camp had paid a \$50 deposit and some had paid further instalments of the camp cost. All money that has been paid will be deferred to the student's other school fees or refunded. No cash will be directly refunded to students. All refunds are made via electronic funds transfer or a cheque. Further information has been emailed to parents.

### Farewell Mr Hoggett:

At the end of Term 2, Mr Hoggett departed the PDHPE faculty to pursue a permanent full time position. We would like to wish him all the best for his future endeavours. He will be missed by the PDHPE faculty, staff and students at Peakhurst.

On that note, we would like to give a warm welcome to Mr Orr who will be replacing Mr Hoggett for the remainder of the school year. Students can now engage with Mr Orr through their regular Google Classrooms that were developed previously in the year by Mr Hoggett.

### U/15's Sydney East School Knockout:

Just prior to the Term 2 holidays, our U/15's basketball knockout team ventured to Newtown Performing Arts High School to compete in Round 1 of the Sydney East School Knockout. Our team were successful in winning the first round convincingly 85 – 36. We hope that this competition will be able to resume in a safe manner later on in the year.

### Guidelines for remote learning success

#### Follow your normal routine

Support your child to eat breakfast, brush their teeth and get dressed in the morning.

#### Set up your workspace

Help your child set up a quiet space at a desk or table where they can work. If your child is using a computer, refer to the Learning environment checklist.

#### Eating and drinking

Prepare snacks and meals outside of school hours so you and your child can grab ready-made food. Encourage your child to drink water throughout the day.



## Take breaks

Schedule in breaks for you and your child to grab a snack or do some stretches.

**Mr A. Morley**

**Relieving Head Teacher PHDPE**

## Sport

It was a solid ten weeks of sport during Term 2, which had many occasions of celebration for our students and our school. The Grade Sport program was well into its winter season, despite the odd bit of Wednesday rain here and there, with several teams leading their table in the competition.

GRC Peakhurst students also had the opportunity to participate in the St George Zone Oz Tag Championship Gala Day, which was a huge success. Four out of our six teams made it to the regional level – a big congratulations to them! Unfortunately, like most sporting activities, the Regional Gala Day has had to be postponed. We're hopeful that we can see our students representing GRC Peakhurst, at what is sure to be a fun but competitive day, in Term 4.

Term 2 is always busy with carnivals. The Zone Cross Country Carnival was held during the middle of the term and we had 22 students from GRC Peakhurst representing the St George Zone on this day. Our students gave their all, with a big congratulations owed to Cameron J, Hugo W and Zyad Y who all made it to the State level! This carnival was due to happen in Week 1 of Term 3, but again, has been postponed. Best of luck to the boys when they get the chance to run!

We also held our school Athletics Carnival earlier in Term 2. We had a 94-strong student team represent our school at the Zone Carnival – our largest team ever! Our students did the school and themselves so proud, with GRC Peakhurst placing third overall in the Zone. We also had six out of our eight relay teams make it to the regional level, as well as 48 students qualify for individual events – a massive achievement! Once again, the Regional Carnival, due to take place in Week 3 of this term has had to be rescheduled. More information about when this will take place will be given as soon as it is notified.

A big thank you to all staff, students, parents and carers on their continued effort and encouragement of school sport across all avenues. It's so good to see so many of our students taking up the opportunities offered and giving it their all!

**Ms. S Yates**

**Sports Coordinator**

## TAS

The TAS faculty was buzzing in the last few weeks of Term 2 with many students completing projects and submitting assessment tasks and attending excursions.

Year 10 Design and Technology designed and produced moveable wooden toys while Support students sewed chefs hats to wear during their food preparation lessons.

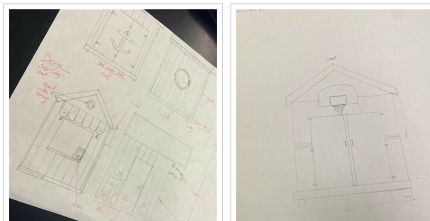


<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqTfLiI8ANU>

Year 9 Food Technology plated amazing food art creations while Year 10 prepared and packaged delicious foods suitable for food truck menus.



Year 10 Graphic Technology designed their very own unique Beach Box for Melbourne's Brighton Beach as part of their Australian architecture unit. They are now making models of their designs. Read below about their wonderful excursion.



This term, learning has been different, the TAS faculty is proud of how students have engaged with online learning. Year 7 Textiles have learnt about the historical, cultural, and societal significance of hats while in Food Technology. Year 8 food have created their very own recipe book. Year 9 are learning about Food in Australia while Year 10 are developing new food products. Industrial Technology and Design and Technology are working on their design and production folios.

Practical projects now have been placed hold. As a result, we have decided to undertake rotations earlier for Year 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory to allow more time for practical lessons on our return to school. Hence you may find that their google classroom teacher may change.

**Ms R. Gaultieri**

**Head Teacher TAS**

## Year 10 Graphics Technology

### Sydney Opera House Tour Excursion

GRC Peakhurst's year 10 Graphics Technology students took in a breath of very cold but fresh air on the morning of June 7th. We travelled by train to Martin Place and walked toward our first destination for the day, the Sydney Opera House. The students were excited and pleased to enjoy the stunning views of the Sydney harbour right from inside the coveted spot. An experienced tour guide walked us in and around the building as we learnt about its history and architectural influences.

Once the tour finished, the sun was still shining brightly and it was the perfect day to enjoy some more sightseeing and delve into the history of the stunning Australian architecture we have right here in Sydney by seeing it firsthand. We toured through the city and stopped off at spots with various influences of architectural styles, such as the contemporary museum of art, the Hyde Park barracks and St Mary's cathedral to name a few. The students got to stop and draw the buildings we visited to truly capture and appreciate the various architectural styles and refine their drafting skills. Overall the excursion was a great success and an enriching experience on our topic of Australian architecture.



**Ms S. Milis**  
**TAS Teacher**

## CAREERS

### GRC Peakhurst Careers Lessons for Year 10 are now in Google Classroom

Year 10 GRC students continue with the careers program via Google Classroom. Each day students are expected to complete the Daily Do Now and Must Do daily attendance question, every day until end of Term 3 lockdown period.

This response will determine "present/ not present" on careers roll.

Students are engaged in online activities to help them better prepare for their future.

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.

As mentioned, Ms Arfanis expects every student to DO THE DAILY CAREERS ATTENDANCE QUESTION OR STATEMENT OR ACTIVITY posted each morning at 8am, from next week forward, until the end of Term 3.

**Subject Selection Preparation for Year 10 students** has been turned on its head with Subject Selection zoom meetings in Week 4 between the student, parent and a member from the careers team.

Please note that all careers lessons and careers information is located in the Google Classroom.

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/>

Importantly, students who were unable to return all the paperwork provided to you on the HSC / Subject Selection Information Evening, back in June, to MsArfanis, Careers Advisor by the specified date at the end of Term 2, just need to hold on to the paperwork, and it can be collected when school returns to face to face delivery. Alternatively you are welcome to place it in an envelope marked to the Careers Adviser, Ms Arfanis, and drop it off into the Rona St GRC Peakhurst school letterbox.

The final stage of the transition process will take place on Tuesday 23rd November, GRC Oatley Senior Campus Orientation Day.

### 2021 EVET goes online for Year 10 students attending Tafe

The following students are enjoying their Externally delivered Vocational Education and Training (EVET) Stage 5 course with TAFE NSW, online as they continue to work towards a Certificate 1 qualification.

They are:

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

## 2021 TAFE Taster Courses are on hold for Year 10 students for Term 3

The students who applied for the 2021 TAFE Taster Courses for Term 3 will be advised of new dates for when these courses will proceed subject to the Covid-19 situation.

## 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.

**Mrs A. Arfanis**  
**Careers Advisor**

## High Performing /Gifted Debating and Public Speaking

Term 3 is upon us, and although the online learning period has meant that many of our debating/public speaking competitions have been paused for now, some highly valuable student opportunities have continued. GRC Peakhurst staff and The Arts Unit have ensured that their valuable extra-curricular student opportunities for debating and public speaking have continued (where possible) and have consistently provided updates and resources for our school community.

## Plain English Speaking Award - Hosted by GRC Peakhurst

We were proud to host 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) competed 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.

## Alivia B PESA Speech

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u14JFeMcE78>

## Zac H PESA Speech

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oT93YRyullQ>

Please see below for a report on the day:

On Thursday 6th May, 2021 we held the Plain English Competition - Local Final in our school library. It was a wonderful and successful day where all participants and audience learned about many different social issues. A huge congratulations goes to Zac H and Alivia B who were our school representatives in the competition. We heard some amazing speeches with such creative topics. Although our two representatives did not progress to the regional final level, they made us proud by competing against other students up to the age of 18! As the host school, we are proud to also thank all the debaters and other public speakers who helped tremendously throughout the day. Special thanks to our adjudicator Tim for coming to our school and delivering such thorough, quality feedback, and also to Miss Osmond for putting up her hand for extra opportunities for us and for letting us run the event. The day ran very smoothly and there were no issues because the event was so well organised by our debating coordinator as well as our keen debating students. Today was truly a wonderful day and we look forward to hosting more events like this in the future.

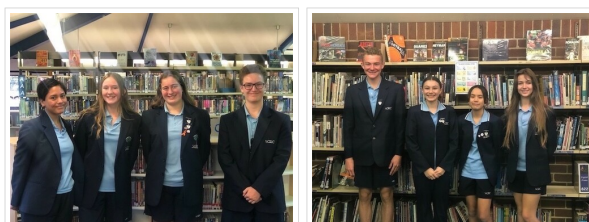
**By Bianca C, Amelia S, Cody J and Avinash B - Year 7-9 Debaters**



## Year 9&10 Debating

On Wednesday 9th of June, both of our debating teams: GRC Peakhurst Year 10A and GRC Peakhurst Year 9B competed against each other in the second round of the Premier's Debating Challenge. The topic for this debate was: **"We should ban the use of animals in sports"**. The affirmative team was GRC Peakhurst 10A and the GRC Peakhurst 9B team was negative. Both teams put up a good fight, with the Year 10A team coming away with their second consecutive win this year. This unfortunately means that the Year 9B team will not proceed to the next rounds, but does allow our Year 10A team to continue. The next debates will be held when restrictions allow. Congratulations to all of our debaters and debating crew for their hard work during the first semester of 2021!

**Zac Hilton - Year 10 Debater**





## Year 7&8 Debating

Our Debating Competitions are paused for now. We will investigate revised dates for all competitions and will provide regular updates for students, families, staff and schools.

## Legacy Public Speaking Competition

Despite a very different and challenging start to Term 3, four of our Year 7 & 8 students should be commended on their commitment to the Legacy Public Speaking Competition. Omar A, Avinash B, Cody J, Sirine N each uploaded their video submissions of a five minute prepared speech (topics listed below), in addition to meeting their deadlines for all of their other schoolwork. Congratulations to our GRC Peakhurst Legacy Public Speaking competitors for 2021!

Omar A - "Racism"

Avinash B - "Protesting"

Cody J - "Appearances Aren't Everything"

Sirine N - "Feminist Is Not A Dirty Word"

Two students will now be selected to represent us and progress to the finals of the competition, where their submissions will need to be uploaded to the Arts Unit by Thursday 12th August, 2021.

Your best contacts in the English staffroom for various public speaking opportunities 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 Rossenrode

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

### Year 7&8 Debating - Miss Osmond/Mrs Campbell

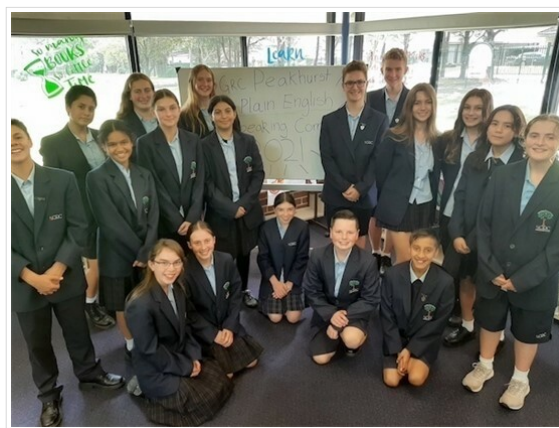
<https://www.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/speaking-competitions/premiers-debating-challenge>

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>

Interested students are also encouraged to join the Debating/Public Speaking Google Classroom with code - tr34azd.



**Ms L. Osmond**

**High Performing/Gifted Debating and Public Speaking Coordinator**

## LIBRARY REPORT

### How to Borrow ebooks

Students, staff and parents are reminded that our school library subscribes to a collection over 10,000+ ebooks. They can be accessed two ways - first, through the student or staff portal then clicking My School Library or second, by downloading the free app ePlatform Wheelers onto a personal device. Users will need to put in their school email/username and password after choosing our school name from a drop-down menu. Happy Reading!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5kriaCfj0E>

This YouTube video gives more detailed instructions about how to log into My School Library.

### ClickView

Clickview is another resource that the school subscribes to and is a platform of movies, tv shows and instructional videos on a wide range of topics. Sign in by choosing our school from a drop-down menu then using school email address and password.

For help signing in to the platform, see here:

<https://www.clickview.com.au/training/resources/?wvideo=x5q49sadkn>

**The State Library NSW** has a collection of resources for families of students who are learning online due to the pandemic.

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/learning/learning-home>

**Year 7 library lessons** online have included the following:

- How to sign on to the library Oliver system through their student portal in order to borrow e-books or to browse or reserve from the print collection.
- How to avoid Plagiarism (presenting another person's work as their own). Students often come from primary school with their idea of research being to just copy and paste from Wikipedia. The lesson includes how to quote and reference a line that's

used or how to paraphrase (put into their own words) or summarise the idea.

- Future lessons will focus on evaluating websites for bias, being able to spot fake news or websites, how to read a webpage and the importance of note taking.

### Other resources for learning at home or anytime:

**LibriVox:** Volunteers from around the world record books in the public domain and then release the audiobooks online for free. You can browse the catalog by author, title, genre and language, which includes ancient Greek, Arabic and Portuguese. If you'd rather record a book than listen to one, anyone can volunteer to do so. No prior experience required.

**Find it:** Visit [librivox.org](http://librivox.org)

### Gutenberg Project-

<https://www.gutenberg.org/>

Over 60,000 free ebooks

A treasure trove of **online games and puzzles** can be accessed at Crazy games.

Go on Virtual Tours all around Australia

<https://newywithkids.com.au/best-virtual-tours-australia/>

**Ms E. Greaves**

**Relieving Teacher Librarian**

## Student Representative Council

Welcome back to a very different Term 3!

### Student Support and "Learning From Home Hacks"

Our student leaders have continued to meet regularly via Zoom in order to discuss online learning and how our school can best support our students, in terms of wellbeing and their learning progress. They have all been busy working, not only on their own online learning but also creating "Learning From Home Hacks" on various topics. These videos are due to be uploaded to our school's social media and sent to all students so that they may access or gain support on:

- Technology and Google Classroom tips.
- Wellbeing and staying positive.
- Healthy food and good habits when working so close to the fridge.
- Positive computer habits.
- How to maintain good relationships with family when in close proximity and sharing WiFi and devices.
- Being apart but staying connected with peers.
- Thank you messages to our staff.



Our student leaders should be commended on this excellent initiative and for their ongoing commitment to their leadership roles.

### Year 8 SRC Members

Last newsletter, our Year 9 SRC members were introduced. Please see below for some introductions from Year 8 this time.

**Isabella** - Hi, my name is Isabella. Leadership is a very important skill to have in life as it encourages you to aim for success. Leadership to me is a valuable skill as it can get you many places, for example success in job interviews and helping out friends.

**Cody** - Hi, my name is Cody and to me, leadership is something that I have wanted to gain ever since I knew leadership was a thing! I wanted to expand my horizons and become a better public speaker and also be able to talk to others. Leadership also helps with your confidence and ability to speak in front of a large audience so now, whether the audience is 10 people or 1000, I am always up to it and this is because of the opportunities I have been given. One thing about me is that I love cars. I have loved cars ever since I was 2 years old and have kept loving them. Also, I love listening to rock music, I listen to it almost everyday and this is because my family and myself love old music.

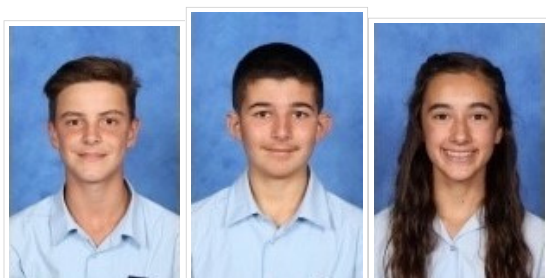
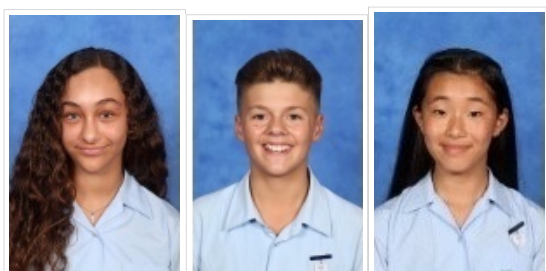
**Ai** - Hi my name is Ai and to me, leadership is a very important quality as it provides you with many beneficial and valuable skills that ultimately help you in everyday life. Leadership is an important factor which helps to maximize efficiency and it can benefit all aspects of your life, giving you greater confidence as well as building up your communication and negotiating skills. These skills you learn as a leader become very helpful in your future, when you are going for a job interview, socialising with people and much more. Being in SRC has personally increased my confidence talking in front of large crowds, as well as time management and being organised. Something about me is that I have a passion for a variety of sports such as soccer, swimming, running and especially dancing! I dance 15+ hours a week and I have danced since I was 3 years old.

**Xander** - Hi my name is Xander. Leadership is important to me because of the life lessons and skills I have learnt being in the SRC group. There are many leadership skills that I have learnt, but the most important skill I have learnt and is still developing, is speaking in front of crowds with confidence. This skill is not just for my school, but for my life after it. Being a part of our highly driven SRC has helped me with having more confidence while speaking in front of crowds. It has been an

amazing experience learning from my other peers in the group, who teach us how to lead and also how to respectfully speak your opinion in class discussions and SRC discussions. Some unique things about me are that I really love sport. I play many different sports including soccer, football, cricket, OzTag and touch football which has been tough on my body but a really fun experience.

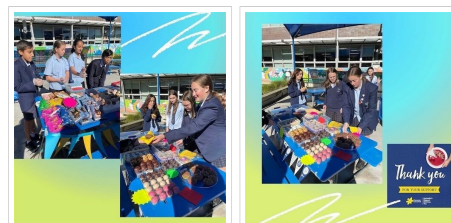
**Sami** - Hi my name is Sami. To me, leadership is an important quality to have as you can gain a lot of skills that aren't only used in school but also out in the real world, so you develop important life skills. One skill you gain more of is self confidence. This is an important and very good skill to have as it can help you with a lot of things in life. For example, speaking in front of large crowds, which is something that can be very challenging to do. Being a part of the SRC has helped me develop more confidence and helped me to become a lot more responsible and quite organised. You learn how to lead a group (as I was able to coordinate my own fundraiser last year), express an opinion and speak so your voice is heard. I have learnt a lot from being in the SRC and I still am learning so much each and every day. Something unique about me is that I love jazz music and play two instruments, the flute and the saxophone. I also love sports, especially rugby league. I don't play for a team on weekends but I always go to the park with my brothers to play footy.

**Rani** - Hi my name is Rani. I believe that leadership is an important skill to have in life. Leadership enables you to unlock many beneficial and exciting skills such as confidence. SRC pushes me out of my comfort zone and helps me become more confident, responsible and organised. These skills are essential when communicating, going for a job and in everyday life. I believe leadership is a skill everyone should have, so it is part of my role to help others with this. SRC and leadership has helped me build up the confidence to do things I never thought I would be able to do, such as speaking in front of large groups and crowds. Some of my interests are doing many different types of sports ranging from soccer, running, dancing, OzTag and many more. I play netball and soccer on the weekends and try to fit in any other fitness when I can whilst completing school work.



## Cancer Council - Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

On Friday June 18th of Term 2, the SRC raised \$415 for the Cancer Council - Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. Congratulations to Fatima R, Cody J, Caitlin J and Amelia S for leading and coordinating this event and to Ms Vlachos and Ms Beck for assisting on the day! We want to extend our sincerest thank you to everyone who donated baked goods and snacks for sale and contributed to this excellent cause.



## Kick Back Classroom

A Wellbeing initiative has also been developed for students, by staff, with the understanding that with so many class changes (particularly in Year 7), that online learning could be a challenge to overcome in socialising and working with new classmates. Therefore, the "Kick Back Classroom" has been utilised for students to complete wellbeing/mindfulness activities and also message other peers in a more informal setting. Students are encouraged to join with code - ucs4yge.

Please feel free to bring any ideas you have for our school to your SRC members to bring up in our Zoom meetings or email me at [lauren.osmond1@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:lauren.osmond1@det.nsw.edu.au) for any ideas you may have in celebrating, appreciating and supporting our school community!

**Ms L. Osmond**

**Student Representative Council Co-ordinator**

## Wellbeing Report

Welcome back to Term 3, from what has and continues to be a very unique and challenging time for all of us. From the Wellbeing team I hope that you are all looking after yourselves and looking out for each other, from a distance of course! As you are all navigating these tough times and trying to keep up with your school work, it is important that you are taking some time to look after your mental wellbeing. Make sure you are getting some exercise as well as finding things that help you to relax. Mindful colouring, puzzles or Sudoku's, reading and cooking are just some ideas. There are so many websites and resources out there for you.

Well done to those of you who are already logging on each morning and engaging in lessons. I encourage all students to join the "Kick Back" Google Classroom and their PL Google Classroom. Kickback is open for all year groups to join in on a variety of fun activities posted each day. If you have completed your online work and are looking for something else to do, it is a place to go and kickback, do something relaxing and interact with other students in our school. Additionally, both of our Wonderful Youth Workers Larra and Merv will be available during recess and lunchtime via this platform if you want to chat.



## Merit Draw

Congratulations to the following students who were the winners of Week 10 Gift Card Merit Draw. Virtual merits are still being awarded for online work so keep up the hard work everyone!

Year 10 - Ashleigh S  
Year 10 – Zachary N  
Year 9 – Xavier F  
Year 9 – Luke S  
Year 8 -Silby C  
Year 8 – Calos L  
Year 7 – Xavier V  
Year 7 -Charlotte C



## Rewards Excursion

On Monday 21st June, we were fortunate to take 80 well deserved students into our rewards excursion at King Pin Darling Harbour, where we spent the day playing laser tag, ten pin bowling, arcade games and lunch. It was a fun day had by all as you can see by the photos below. A big thankyou to Mr Kotesvki, Ms Haidar & Mrs Tzoumas for your bowling and laser tag expertise! Keep striving for those merits as we will be holding a second rewards day at the end of Term 4.

Please click on the link below to view photos from the day.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/LbkvztghAFB6i6G9>

COVID brings a level of uncertainty and angst that is affecting all of us. Not only are the circumstances difficult, the mental battles are equally challenging. For many students and parents alike, we battle with anxious thoughts that can be intrusive and overwhelming. It is important that we support one another at this time, and we have a school partner who has a great resource available to you.

MyStrengths Australia have partnered with our school for a number of years, leading students to discover their strengths and develop a growth mindset. MyStrengths Founder, Dan Hardie, has been passionate about helping students and parents alike, and has created a short online series that will help you and your children to better handle the anxious thoughts at this time. This 3-part series is FREE to all school partners, and will help you take steps to overcome.

You can take this Free Mini-Course, now available at the link below:

**Mrs M. Seidel**

**Relieving Head Teacher Wellbeing**