



Parramatters

Parramatta High School Newsletter
FAX MENTIS INCENDIUM GLORIAE

“The torch of the mind lights the path of glory”

Our vision is to provide a holistic 21st century education which develops resilient individuals who are active and informed citizens, empowered to think critically and creatively, within an environment that values diversity, equity and resilience.

ISSUE 16 | TERM 4 | 16TH NOVEMBER, 2018

Deputy Principal’s Report

Dear Parents

A number of our Year 11 students have been involved in a special leadership program over the past few months. Elena Capeska, Sharanya Ganguly, Bansi Joshi, Raymond Wu and Nazia Zahedi have all been involved in the Max Potential leadership program. The Max Potential program enables our students to engage in designing and implementing innovative community service programs. They receive one on one coaching with local community and business leaders as well as attending workshops to help them develop the skills necessary to deliver their projects. The culmination of the program is a wonderful showcase where the students get to show their project to a large audience of fellow participants, teachers, parents and community representatives which is held at Dooleys at Lidcombe who are the generous sponsor of this program. All of our students produced great programs and Ms Heron was very impressed with their efforts at the show case. They have all benefited from the program as they have demonstrated the skills and confidence to work through a plan and bring it to fruition. Well done to all our participants and thanks again to the Max Potential organisation and Dooleys for making this program possible.

Congratulations and thank you to the vast majority of our students who wear our school uniform with pride and are punctual to school. However, there is still a very small minority of students who come to school out of uniform or are late on a regular basis.

We ask you for your support in ensuring that your children get to school on time and in full uniform. Whilst we understand that on occasions there are circumstances that mean that a student will be late or out of uniform, in most cases there is not a legitimate reason. When there is a legitimate reason, please ensure your child has a note explaining why. We appreciate your support on this matter.

Our Social Justice League under the guidance of Ms Moore has been busy preparing for their trip to Gilgandra HS to help with drought relief in that area. The whole school has got behind this initiative and we have raised lots of money for the Gilgandra community. There will be a full report on their trip on their return.

Mr. Gokel & Mrs. Johnstone

CALENDAR 2018

TERM 4

Week 6

Monday 19th November

Tuesday 20th November
Biology Excursion

Wednesday 21st November
White Ribbon Day Assembly

Thursday 22nd November
Art Club
After School programming Club
Careers Excursion
Engineers without borders

Friday 2^{3rd} November
Girls in Sport Festival

Week 7

Monday 26th November
Hospitality Work Placement Week

Tuesday 27th November
Peer Support training

Wednesday 28th November
Peer Support Training
Gilgandra Trip

Thursday 29th November
After School programming
Fast Forward Excursion
Gilgandra Trip

Friday 30th November
Gilgandra Trip

CAREERS

A year ago I applied for, and received funding to undertake a project that I designed that would encourage our students to consider future carers in STEM related areas and at the same time, experience a university campus visit, to enhance interest and excitement for the students. Well, the dream became a reality on Thursday September 20th with 63 year ten students involved in a jam packed day full of wonderful information and engaging activities, (and showbags!) I established a link with a group called Refraction Media, who produce a quarterly magazine called Careers With Stem and together we organised four guest speakers who have been successful in the STEM related careers. We learnt of their journeys and their successes. After a quick morning tea of muffins and juice, the students were divided for the rest of the day into groups of three where they participated on different workshops-Organised by the University for us- a visit to the Nano science Building, a virtual reality experience and a mathematics session (INVOLVING A LOT OF FUN OF COURSE.) Lunch was at the University Food areas and the students felt very important being part of uni life for a brief time.

This experience was unique to our school. We have now established a link Sydney University which I will pursue in the next few years. Thank you to Ms Johnstone, Mr Wise and Mr Chakkar who assisted me on the day. I also wish to acknowledge my Head Teacher, Mr Morson for his on-going support as I prepared for the day throughout the year from scratch.

The excitement continues however with more great activities

Careers day at Taronga Zoo,
UNSW High school Engineering day,
Sydney Uni Spectacular Science,
Sydney Uni (Westmead) STEM day for Parramatta High Students, and UTS discovery day.

Don't forget our school careers website for information www.parramattahighcareers.com-

On Thursday November 15th 40 Year Ten students trekked to Westmead hospital for the Careers in Health in Stem day in conjunction with Sydney Uni at its beautiful new campus.

Students first went to a simulation of real life CPR and a role play of how emergency staff work together to treat a patient who had taken a drug overdose. It was amazing to watch the well trained staff in action, I felt like we were in an episode of Grey's Anatomy.

After a welcomed morning tea students went into a workshop on sickle cell anemia - quite a difficult session (I had no idea) but students were challenged to really think and that can't be bad ! Lunch followed and then final workshops in Art in Science, careers in allied health, a little bit of meditation for tired brains and then a final talk on careers in the health sector. A very full day but so rewarding.

Thank you to Sydney Uni for arranging this day for us. The exciting news is that we will continue these days next year as an in- going partnership. Westmead Hospital is undergoing a huge transformation and there will be an abundance of jobs there in the future. Hopefully our students were impressed with what they saw and were inspired to work hard towards their career goals.

Many Year Ten students are taking advantage of the on-going work experience program and I am looking forward to visiting them at their workplace. Ten students will be attending the Sydney Uni science spectacular on Thursday 22nd November and there is also an excursion to UTS on Tuesday Dec 4th - a careers in engineering and IT day. That will be it for me this year in terms of excursions (we have done about 25!) hopefully careers outside the classroom has encouraged our students to work hard and gave them insight into many different universities, career paths and jobs if the future .



MUSIC News

Remembrance Day - Centenary of Armistice - 11 November 2018

At 11.00 am on Sunday 11 November communities across Australia and the world acknowledged and commemorated the Centenary of Armistice that marked the end of The Great War in Europe. Respect and expressions of gratitude in music, prayers and speeches were given to our veterans who paid the ultimate sacrifice and to our current service men and women, so that we enjoy peace and prosperity as a nation today.

PHS was invited to perform the musical items. Some of the students in our Junior Choir were able to attend and were accompanied by Ms Piper at the local Parramatta community event at Prince Alfred Park, Parramatta. The items performed included the hymns *Eternal Father Strong to Save* and *Oh God Our Help In Ages Past* and also the National Anthem, *Advance Australia Fair*.



Maryone Joseph (Captain) and Karthik Pande (Vice Captain) laid a wreath on the cenotaph to commemorate the fallen on behalf of Parramatta High School.

Thank you to all the students who represented Parramatta High School to perform and pay respect with dignity.

YEAR 7: Fathia Onifade & Dhvani Shrestha

YEAR 8: Aryan Adami, Jessica Francis, Manuja Jayakodi, Shreeya Rajeev & Hansh Sheth

YEAR 9: Kavi Balakumar, Adheem Ghamrawi, Shania Pires & Dev Yadav

YEAR 11: Derek Francis, Maryone Joseph & Karthik Pande

Thank you also to the many family members who supported the students on the day and were able to relax at lunch afterwards, courtesy of the Parramatta RSL sub-Branch, at the club.

A more contemporary piece composed by Peter Barnes in 2001, *Can You Hear Australia's Heroes Marching?* which highlights the sacrifice of many Australians who died in the service and defence of our country in war was performed very professionally by Jessica Francis (vocals), Hansh Sheth (narration), accompanied by Derek Francis (guitar) and with backing from Junior Choir members. At this point, Father David Oulde, who was compere for the ceremony, thanked and praised Parramatta High School students enormously for performing the musical items and the hundreds of people present appreciatively applauded.

Assembly Performances and Presentations

Year 10 Elective Music students, Preeti Narayan (vocals) accompanied by Thomas Dizon (ukulele) gave a fantastic performance of *Can't Help Falling In Love With You* which was originally performed by Elvis Presley.



"Some of the students going to Gilgandra photographed with a representative of the Yr 9 Commerce class as she presented a 'cheque' for \$3820 towards the SJL Gilgandra Drought Support Fundraising."



2018 Peer Support Leaders received their certificates



White Ribbon Day Announcement by Varun & Matthew



ICAS AWARDS

ICAS is an annual competition run by Education Assessment Australia, an enterprise of the University of NSW. Over one million students from Australia and New Zealand and countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and USA take part in it.

This year 139 students from Parramatta High participated in ICAS MATHEMATICS and we achieved some outstanding results: 2 High Distinctions and 25 Distinctions. Congratulation to all the students.



Year 8 students getting their **DISTINCTION AWARD**



Nihar Makadia (Year10) getting his **HIGH DISTINCTION** award



Year 9 students getting their **DISTINCTION AWARD**



Year 7 students getting their **DISTINCTION AWARD**



Year 10 students getting their **AWARDS**





PARRAMATTA HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

INFORMATION SEARCH PROCESS

Information Literacy and
critical thinking skills



Teacher librarian: Mr Chakar

What are Information Skills?

Information Skills are a series of logical steps that everyone uses to complete both the simplest and the most complex research tasks.

Why use this process?

Students who understand and apply the steps in the process are better able to:

- Work out what the task requires
- Select the most suitable information for the task
- Organise and present the task

What else is required?

To complete tasks to a high level students must also:

- Use effective note-taking strategies
- Record all sources in a bibliography

THE INFORMATION SKILLS PROCESS

DEFINING

What is my purpose?
What do I need to find out?
What do I need to do?

LOCATING

How will I find
The resources I need?
What do I
already know about this topic?

SELECTING

How can I find just what I need
in each source?
What don't I need?
How correct is the information?
How will I find the sources again?