



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 7 | TERM 2 | 3RD JULY 2020

Deputy Principal's Report

Dear Parent / Carers,

Thank you to our school community who have supported us this term as we navigated through the “return to face-to-face” learning.

All students have received their semester 1 report. You would have seen that these are a simplified version of our normal reports. If you have any concerns about your child's progress please contact the school.

At this point for term 3, there will be the lifting of some restrictions. School sport and interschool competitions will commence. Students will now need to come to school in school uniform and change into their PE uniform for lessons. Tuesday is the only day students should be coming to school in PE uniform.

We will continue with our performing arts activities with safety protocols in place and some incursions that support the delivery of curriculum or involve allied health professionals will take place.

The following however remains on hold:

- School camps
- Excursions
- Parent attendance at assemblies & graduations
- School based activities that involve large gatherings of adults.

In line with this we will not be holding our junior school parent teacher evenings. Teachers who have concerns about any students have been asked to contact parents and we urge parents to do the same.

Parents and students in Year 12 have received information regarding the “end of term” activities and celebrations, and decisions will be made next term.

We continue to receive additional cleaning at school in line with the AHPPC guidelines, and whilst physical distancing of children is not required we will keep sending strong messages regarding hygiene and appropriate behaviour.

School Attendance

All school students should be returning to school unless:

- they are currently unwell
- They have a medical certificate which states that they are unable to return to school due to an ongoing medical condition and the expected timeframe.

If a student is tested for COVID -19 please inform the school and keep them home until results have come through.

Lateness

We are very aware of the traffic and parking challenges that surround our school. We all need to take this in consideration in our travels to school to ensure that students are at school on time for the day by 8.25am.

There are a considerable amount of students who are late each day, many of these are students who walk to school and live nearby.

Please put some strategies in place to ensure students at school each day and on time.

School Payments

The preferred payment method will continue to be online. Payments can also be made using Eftpos at the front office.

School resumes Term 3 for students on Tuesday 21st July. It will be an A Week timetable.

We wish you safe and happy holidays and look forward to a successful Term 2.

Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. Gokel, Ms. Kougelos



2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) – English and Spelling.

For over 30 years ICAS has been delivered to schools throughout Australia and in over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Region and USA. Your child is invited to participate in 2020.

All students receive a certificate and an individual student report indicating which questions they answered correctly and their score compared with the rest of the students tested. The tests are an excellent preparation for national tests and the student report is useful for highlighting your child's strengths and weaknesses.

High quality certificates are awarded for each year level as follows:

- High Distinction to the top 1% of entrants
- Distinction to the next 10% of entrants
- Credit to the next 25% of entrants
- Participation to all other participating student

There are TWO different tests students are able to sit to test their English and literacy skills:

ENGLISH TEST: entry fee for sitting the test is **\$15.95 GST INC.**

- **Year 7 and Year 10 students** -This test will take place on **Monday the 24th August 2020 (3.00pm – 3.55pm)**
- **Year 8 and Year 9 students** - This test will take place on **Tuesday the 25th August 2020 (3.00pm – 3.55pm)**

SPELLING TEST: entry fee for sitting the test is **\$15.95 GST INC.**

- **Year 7 students ONLY** - This test will take place on **Monday 31st August 2020 (3.00pm – 3.55pm)**

Permission notes can be collected from the English staffroom. They **must** be returned and **online payments** made by: **17th July, 2020.**

(Payments will not be accepted at the front office)

ONLINE PAYMENT DETAILS:

- Go to the website <https://shop.unswglobal.com.au/pages/pps>
- Type in the School access code is: **JTT678** and then follow the prompts

Note: No refunds will be given to students who are absent on the day of the incursion.

Please return the permission note below to the English Staffroom, as soon as you have made your online payment.



During the upcoming school holidays, Parramatta High School will be providing Year 12 students with the opportunity to come into the school and participate in extracurricular study and revision sessions.

These study/revision sessions will be held from Monday the 6th of July till Friday the 17th July. Students will be given the opportunity to attend a number of their subject areas, led by their classroom teachers, to engage in study/examination techniques and content revision.

A timetable has been issued to students as well as a permission note that will need to be brought back to the teacher during their allocated day.



Just a short notice this week. Students in year 10 who may want to do a TVET course in year 11 and their parents, are welcome to have a look at the attached info sessions on TVET being presented by Tafe over the next week.

Applications will open in August and I will be advertising for expressions of interest early next term. Enjoy the holidays,

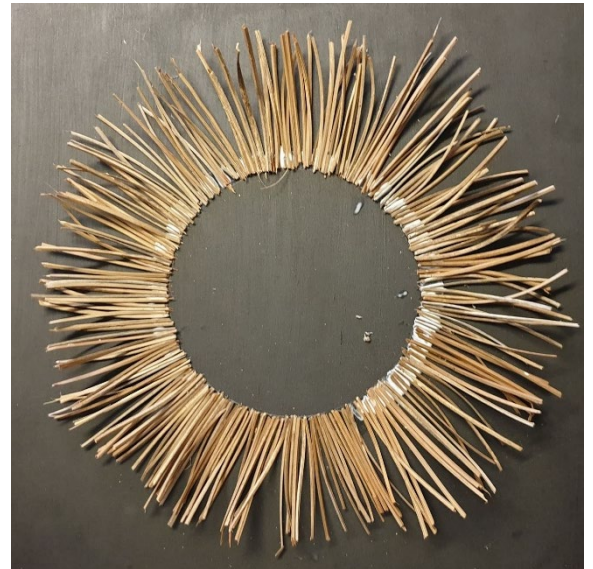
Mrs Michelle Ibrahim
Careers Adviser.

VISUAL ARTS SPOTLIGHT

In Term 2, Year 8 Visual Arts students took a look at environmental and ephemeral art, focusing on UK artist- Andy Goldsworthy. With respect for nature and exploring sustainable forms of art, we began to design and create sculptures using only the materials nature gives to us. Some students stacked pebbles and stones while others layered leaves, sticks, and twigs in beautiful formations and structures.

Over time these sculptures may wilt, scatter, and collapse and this is the beauty of ephemeral art. Some amazing art has come out of this unit and Year 8 have shown their enthusiasm for Mother Nature by harmonizing with the natural world using sculptural techniques learned in Visual Arts classes.

Miss Giblin



Introducing WOMAN UP!

A new and exciting leadership group at Parramatta High School!

Women today, empower tomorrow...

Our core values: Equality, Opportunity, Empowerment

Manifesto:

Our sisterhood, **Woman Up**, believes that every person has the right to be treated **equally**, no matter where they are born, how much money they have or what culture, religion or gender they identify with.

Every person deserves the **opportunity** to reach their full potential. By implementing initiatives that promote inclusiveness, diversity and progress, we will build a future which values all actions that lead to a better world.

We will conduct ourselves with integrity and embrace our open-mindedness and creativity to address the needs of the school and wider community. Our commitment to learning and evolving as a group will ensure that we strive to achieve our goals. We will **empower** individuals to lead and develop their capacity to enact change.

Together, we will make a difference.

Current projects:

- **BIG SISTER, LITTLE SISTER (starting in Term 3):** This mentoring initiative brings girls from diverse backgrounds into one united group to form a supportive sisterhood. Big Sister, Little Sister provides a stress-free environment where junior students have the opportunity to be mentored by senior students in topics such as stress management, health and wellbeing, effective study habits and leadership skills. You can engage in different activities such as a scavenger hunt we're planning in Term 4, discussion groups, problem solving challenges, morning teas etc. **If you would like to take part in this initiative, register your interest with Ms Mellas in the English staffroom and keep an eye out for our posters around the school.**
- Provide a platform where student voices can be heard in relation to gender issues and then provide opportunities for these issues to be addressed in meaningful ways.
- Plan and implement activities that promote positive interactions between all students.
- Create new initiatives that focus on empowering the school community to access equal opportunities especially in education.

- Create a social media platform to promote the initiatives and awareness programs planned by Woman Up
- Raise awareness and address misconceptions regarding Feminism
- Keep students up-to-date with Woman Up initiatives via a school noticeboard
- Research and design new girls sport shorts

We welcome you to visit our roll call in Room 9 if you would like share any suggestions or ideas that our group can address.



Attention Parents: It is **your** responsibility under the Education Act to ensure your son or daughter attends school every day, on time and explain any absences or late arrivals via note,

phone call or text message response to Parramatta High School.

##**Students** who are late to school without a valid explanation or note from their parents will be issued a warning letter. If there are any further unexplained late arrivals by a student they will be given a detention.

Being on time is a very important skill needed to be successful in life!

“ You snooze, you lose!”..... “The early bird catches the worm!”

Don't be late!

LIBRARY NEWS



STATE LIBRARY OF NSW E-RESOURCES



Just a reminder that all students can obtain a free online library card from the State Library of NSW and gain access to their very large collection of e-resources and databases.

You can find out more about their e-resources here:

<https://www2.sl.nsw.gov.au/eresources/>

ERESOURCES

Find full-text articles, newspapers and images

Research and collections link:

<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections>

RESEARCH AND COLLECTIONS

Explore the rich resources of your Library

Business	2	HSC	5
Collection guides	7	Indigenous Australia	2
Family History	5	Law	8
Government	7	Literature and language	2
Health	1	Social sciences	1
History and biography	5		

Find out how to sign up for a free library card here:

<http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/using/membership/index.html>

Get a Library card

Kind Regards,

Mr Chakar



PHS LITERACY NEWS! STAGE 6 WHOLE SCHOOL ACADEMIC WRITING PROJECT

Parramatta High School's 2020 Professional Learning Plan places a significant focus on supporting teachers to develop and implement **effective teaching practices to improve students' literacy skills and achievement**. Staff data analysis of 2017-2019 HSC results identified the ongoing need to improve students' academic writing. As a result, the PHS Literacy Team, led by its Literacy Coordinator Ms Begg, have designed and are delivering a **Stage 6 Whole School Academic Writing Project**. This Project has so far included the delivery of professional learning sessions to all staff, as well as staff collaborative teacher planning sessions resulting in Stage 6 Literacy lessons and resources by all staff and across all Key learning Areas and Faculties.

Staff are extending their knowledge and skills to develop, extend and support academic writing amongst all senior students in preparation for students' HSC and tertiary academic studies. Teachers at Parramatta High are utilising CECE's *What Works Best* evidence-based practices such as **explicit teaching of literacy** and the **Literacy Explicit Teaching and Learning Cycle Model**. Their lessons will focus on developing students':

- sophisticated use of academic and subject specific vocabulary
- use of academic, formal voice
- ability to control their expression and create complex sentence structures
- ability to express complex conceptual arguments in topic sentences and extended response writing

Explicit teaching practices involve teachers clearly showing students what to do and how to do it. It also recognises that learning is a cumulative and systematic process, starting with building strong foundations in core literacy skills. Lessons developed and implemented will ensure Stage 6 (Year 11 and 12) students are given time and consistent teacher instruction to build students' field of knowledge, and to model exemplar responses and literacy skills, and then support students to jointly and independently construct their own exemplar written responses. **The overall aim of the Stage 6 Academic Writing Project is to maximise students' literacy confidence and success in assessments and HSC examinations.**

Watch this space for further news of the implementation and showcasing of this PHS whole school project, and teacher and student feedback on the effectiveness and success of its implementation.

PHS teachers working collaboratively to develop their Stage 6 Whole School Academic Writing Project lessons





Stage 6 STUDENTS

Welcome to the HSC hub



Creative arts



English



HSIE



Languages



Mathematics



PDHPE



Science



TAS



Additional HSC student support

HSC students from NSW public schools now have access to the new DoE online platform – a home for **support material, online lessons, practice exams, demonstrations, assessment resources and video lessons to supplement their existing coursework and** strengthen their HSC success.

This hub provides HSC students with a quick and easy point of reference for questions they might have on anything relating to the HSC.

“A range of high quality, on-demand support modules will be progressively made available to students through the platform from the start of the July school holidays,” stated Ms Sarah Mitchell, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning,

The HSC Hub solution was designed following a survey of HSC teachers through statewide staffrooms across NSW to determine what additional support teachers felt was required for HSC students and what form this support could take.

New material is being added regularly from both the department and external providers to make sure that students have the support they need this year.

HSC HUB LAUNCHED ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DoE) WEBSITE from the 2nd JULY 2020, and can be accessed from here:

<https://www.hsclub.nsw.edu.au/>

Stage 6 HSC STUDENTS AND THEIR PARENTS CAN ACCESS USEFUL REVISION RESOURCES, HSC PAST EXAMINATION PAPERS AND EXAMINER FEEDBACK NOTES HERE:

<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home>

MUSIC News



Year 12 Music “Rock” at Recognition Awards Ceremony!

Year 12 Music 1 Course students provided wonderful entertainment to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the many Year 12 students acknowledged at the Ceremony on Wednesday 24 June.

The mid-ceremony performance was *Malagueña*, a traditional solo acoustic Spanish flamenco fingerstyle guitar piece based on Andalusian folk music. A combination of richly-ornamented solo melodic material, tremolo picking, arpeggios, rhythmic strumming and Rasgueados was expertly performed by Jenil Raval.



The After Awards Performances were of similarly high standard of performance. Our very talented School Captain, **Preeti Narayan** sang Christy Altomare’s version of *Journey to the Past* from the 2017 stage adaptation of “Anastasia”. Preeti’s characterisation of the character Anya showcased her voice as she mirrored different emotions experienced in themes concerning home, love and family.



Nicola Harrison then passionately sang the contemporary pop song *The Village* by Wrabel. This piece supports transgender rights with lyrics pertaining to a teen struggling to find acceptance.



An instrumental version of the sentimental ballad, *Love Of My Life*, from the 2018 movie “Bohemian Rhapsody”, about the Rock Group Queen, was performed with significant stylistic understanding and expressive interest by **Clarence Thein (piano)** and **Henry Nguyen (guitar)**.



The ceremony concluded with a powerful performance of *Ride* by Twenty One Pilots covered by **Muntaqim Chowdhury (vocals)**, **ClarenceThein (keytar)**, **Henry Nguyen (guitar)**, **Zain Khan (bass guitar)** and **Nithilaan Aravindan (drums)**.



Year 10 Baroque Music Performances

On Thursday 25 June, Year 10 Elective Music students obeyed social distancing rules while they compiled a video of their Semester 1 major performance pieces representing the Baroque Music topic.

Parramatta High School
Baroque Concert - Year 10 Music
Thursday, 25 June 2020

1. Prelude and Fugue No. 9 in E major, BWV 854 J S Bach
 from The Well-Tempered Clavier, Book I
 Ian Vlu (piano)
2. Minuet in G J S Bach
 Dan Jacob (guitar)
3. The King's March Jeremiah Clarke
 Aharthy Thavarajahsingham (violin)
 accompanied by Ms Piper (piano)
4. Ave Maria Beyoncé
 Shreya Rajeev (vocals), Harish Mahendra-Prabhu and
 Hansh Sheth (guitars)
5. Canon in D Pachelbel
 Soham Divekar (guitar)
6. Eleanor Rigby John Lennon/Paul McCartney
 Pratik Shah (guitar)
7. Memories Maroon 5
 Grace Choi (vocals), Paddy Donoghue (guitar) and
 Bhumika Chauhan (drums)
8. Canon in D Pachelbel
 Vedant Chanpura (piano)
9. Bad Things Camila Cabello and Machine Gun Kelly
 Aryan Adami and Jessica Francis (guitar/vocals)



Talent Development Project (TDP)

Good luck to Dev Yadav from Year 11 Elective Music who has been selected as our PHS student to audition for TDP this year. Dev is auditioning as a singer/guitarist/songwriter. He has spent many recesses and lunch breaks in the music rooms since arriving at PHS, composing original songs and always practising towards self-improvement. Dev has also recently benefitted from the expert guidance of our voice tutor, Mrs Natalie Gooneratne. For his audition video Dev has recorded one original piece and two covers. Results should be known by the end of term. We wish Dev all the best of luck.



Thank you to Mr Smith, Afraz Merchant and Soham Divekar who have tirelessly assisted with the compilation of so many video recordings during the last few weeks.

**~ Ms Piper & Mr Scanes ~
MUSIC STAFF**