

# Bulletin

## Issue 1 Term 3, 2014



# Congratulations & Thankyou

### GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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“A GREAT PLACE TO  
LEARN”



**Inside:**  
Principal's Report

**Deputy Principal Reports:**  
Mr Marciniak

**Head Teachers Reports:**  
Ms Kotelawela – Science  
Mr Mandarakas – HSIE  
Mr Budnik – English  
Ms Ram – Maths  
Mr Abraham – PDHPE  
Mr Odei – TAS  
Mrs Cullenward – Teaching and Learning  
Ms Adderley – Learning Services

**Careers Report:**  
Mrs Bailey-Marsman



# Working Together



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms L O'Brien

Congratulations to all members of our community for a most successful Term. We have enjoyed a magnificent Eid Dinner, PBIS DAY, a concert at the Opera House and we farewell Year 12 to name just some of the special events of this term.

Before I describe these events I wish to report on some sad but happy news for our school. Mr Mark Marciniak and Mr Frank Abas are leaving our school this term to take up promotions positions at other schools. Mr Marciniak is the new Principal of James Cook Boys High School and Mr Abas is the substantive Deputy Principal at Normanhurst Boys High. We welcome Mr David Taylor as relieving Deputy Principal, who commenced at the school in Week 6 of this term. Mr Taylor comes from The Forest High School on the Northern Beaches of Sydney.

Mr Marciniak commenced at GBHS as Deputy in 2009, a time when our school experienced some difficulties because of the disruptive behavior of some students. At that time Mr Marciniak took over the school portfolio of student welfare and the PBIS team was formed under his leadership. This team has continued to be a strong foundation for the PBIS platform at the school because of Mr Marciniak's leadership and has contributed to the change in climate and culture of the school. Mr Marinciak has also had the responsibility for Year 7 and the high school transition programs since 2009 and has established close relationships with each student in the Year 7 cohorts.

Mr Abas, much loved by the senior students has worked tirelessly in his leadership of professional learning and all teachers are indebted to him for his collaborative work and intelligent leadership of the portfolio. We thank these two men for their dedication to the school community and their strong leadership. We have had a wonderfully rewarding time working with them.

In Term 4 I shall be taking leave to work on my Doctorate of Education and Mr James Mallios will be acting Principal. Ms Nahida Jamal, Mr Nathaniel Doige, Ms Melinda Adderly (4 weeks), and Ms Maina Ram (4weeks) will be acting as Deputy Principals during my leave.

NAPLAN results have arrived and again it gives me great pleasure to recognize the wonderful performances from Year 9 and Year 7 students. There were 116 band eights and above awarded to students and again growth in learning for Year 9 was significantly better than NSW State averages. The percentage of boys reading at proficiency in both years has increased by over 200%. My thanks to the wonderful teachers for their work to engage students in learning projects that have excited the students and greatly assisted their overall performance.

The Music and Dance programs at school have been outstanding this term. Mr Calvert who commenced at our school earlier this year has managed an

extraordinary variety of events where students have performed in public or participated in workshops conducted by cultural organisations. The Arabic drummers led a march of citizens through the streets of Auburn to raise awareness about suicide prevention. The Arabic Band has developed a high level of performance skills and is in demand at all our parties and at other schools' events. The Concert band opened Our Spectacular at the Sydney Opera House in early September and the small band ensembles have excelled at school functions. Woodridge State High School visited our school for a very successful concert and students performed original compositions for their peers in the school library.

Our annual Eid Dinner attracted a huge crowd this year and on behalf of the school I would like to thank all those involved, particularly the Greater Western Sydney Giants football Club, the parents and the staff at school who worked tirelessly to prepare food and entertainment. The surprise visit from the University of Utah troupe of performers delighted the audience.

Have a wonderful holiday everyone and keep safe.

# DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Marciniak

At the commencement of Term 4 I will leave to take up my new position as principal of James Cook Boys High School. It has been a great honour to serve you at GBHS and I have learnt so much from the staff and the community. My time here has been very memorable Goodbye and good luck to all the boys and their families at GBHS. Thank you so much.

Granville Boys High School's Year 7 Selective class students and Year 8 mentors from the Enrichment class have been working all term on their Robotics program with our partners in learning from Macquarie University. On August the 18<sup>th</sup> they had an opportunity to test their skills against other students from local primary and high schools in our Local Lego Challenge competition which was held at Granville Boys High. The boys performed well and thoroughly enjoyed the experience; however they need to hone their skills before the real First Lego Challenge which is scheduled for November the 19<sup>th</sup> at GBHS, Good luck boys.

During the week of August 11<sup>th</sup> I started the process of conducting individual interviews with all Year 10 students and their parents to discuss subject selections into Year 11 for 2015. The process was very comprehensive and informative and many of the students had taken the process of selecting subjects and planning their future very seriously and it was an absolute pleasure to see so many committed and well prepared students. Approximately 95% of students anticipating to continue their studies next year and about 80% of those students intended to proceed along



an ATAR pathway with the prospect of seeking a position at University at the completion of their HSC. Over the next few weeks I will finalise all student subject selections and early next term we will be able to inform and confirm students subject selections. Thank you to all the parents and careers that attended the meetings, it was a pleasure to see you again and please continue to support your son's learning throughout the year and over the following two years.

We celebrate our success as a school and embrace the cultural diversity which exists amongst our community through our annual PBIS Focus day. PBIS day was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at GBHS. Again the day consisted of School Performances and multicultural food stalls. Students are required to attend school before 9am in full school uniform (no sports uniform) where they had been supplied morning tea. At 10am the performances began and at 12pm we had a break for lunch. This year's food stalls will include: Middle Eastern, Asian, Indian, French, European, Turkish, Polynesian, Australian, African and Gelato and drinks stalls.

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Taylor

I'd like to introduce myself as the new Deputy principal at Granville Boys High School. I have a background within the Technological and Applied Studies Key Learning Area, teaching at a broad range of both single sex and co-educational selective and comprehensive high school environments. I have taught an extensive range of subjects including Vocational Education & Training and accelerated Higher School Certificate courses, and have marked and judged the external HSC Information Processes & Technology exam for the last ten years. My previous substantive appointment was Head Teacher TAS at The Forest High School, where I was relieving DP for 2013 and 2014. I am a strong advocate for the Positive Behaviour Intervention and Support (PBIS) system, and have enjoyed my last few weeks of term 3 getting to meet the staff, students, parents at the school.

I look forward to my immediate future at Granville Boy's, and hope to be able to contribute it's dynamic teaching and learning environment.



## Science Report

Ms Kotelawela



The Science Headquarters

### Assessment

Students in all years 7 to 12 are well into their assessment program. A guide to the assessment components has been given to all students.

### Science experiments and activities

Making a model of an atom

Dropping a parachute



### Year 7:

This term in Science, students are enjoying a series of experiments planned under the topic "May the force be with you" The skills that students have developed in doing these experiments are helping them to develop their capacity in planning and carrying out first-hand investigations, making observations and reading scales. The picture above shows a group of students dropping parachutes made from different materials to study how

# English REPORT

Mr Budnik

the material of the canopy affects the drop time of the parachute. They were able to link their knowledge and understanding about *gravity* and how it affects sky diving. Boys also experimented on magnetic forces. They really enjoyed these experiences.

## Year 8 students

Year 8 students are studying the topic “survivor” and carrying on various activities on microbes, body systems, diseases and food webs.

## Year 9:

Students in year 9 are learning about the structure of the atom and the periodic table as well as acids and bases and Global Warming and its effects on society and the environment. They are also working on their Student Research Project .

## Year 10:

Year 10 students are working on their homework booklets and extending their knowledge on Newton’s laws of motion and conducting a series of experiments on acceleration and velocity.

## Year 11:

Year 11 students in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Senior Science are getting ready for their yearly examination taking place in weeks 9 and 10. The students are been supported with revision work and practice in writing examination questions.

## Year 12:

All year 12 students are going through past examination papers with the support of their teachers in preparation to their HSC examination. We wish them all the very best in their HSC.

## Science Info Day

The Science Info day is designed to give the senior high school students a taste of university life as a Science student. On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August, a group of year 11 students led by Miss Vitetta attended the Science Info Day at UNSW Kensington campus. The students attended a number of lectures and hands-on activities to help them determine what area of Science may be right for them.

## Year 12 Biology

This term, the Year 12 Biology students are learning about Communication. As part of the HSC course requirement students had the opportunity to dissect a bull’s eye. The students were excited as they were able to successfully dissect and identify the different structures of the bull’s eyes.

The Science faculty would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for their continuous support and we wish all our families a safe and good holiday!

As term 3 draws to a close the year 11 students are busy preparing for their final examinations before they take the step into year 12 next term. Preliminary students should be spending some time over the vacation preparing for their study of their first HSC module. Advanced English students will be undertaking the study of Shakespeare’s *Julius Caesar* and two other texts of their own choosing, for Module C: Representation and Text: Elective 1: Conflicting Perspectives. Standard students will be reading selected poems written by Douglas Stewart for Module A: Experience through language: Elective 2: Distinctively Visual. Both Advanced and Standard candidates should ensure they have a copy of their text to read during the vacation so they are prepared for class study at the beginning of term 4. Preliminary English Studies students will also commence the HSC pattern of study next term.

Year 12 are traveling full steam ahead, winding up their last modules of study. Students of the Advanced Course have completed their final assessment on Slessor and modernist poetry and standard students will complete their in-class essay on *The Story of Tom Brennan* as part of the Into the World elective for Module C: Texts and Society. Year 12 students should be planning a consistent home study regime throughout the holiday and study-break period. The English staff would like to wish all HSC students the best of luck for their final examinations.

Year 10 are madly creating their own short stories like the budding young writers they are! The sound of scratching pens can be heard along the corridors as they consolidate what they have learnt throughout the Narrative Unit they have been completing in term 3. The unit focused on setting, characterisation and action and serves as a building block for the skills they will need in year 11 and 12.

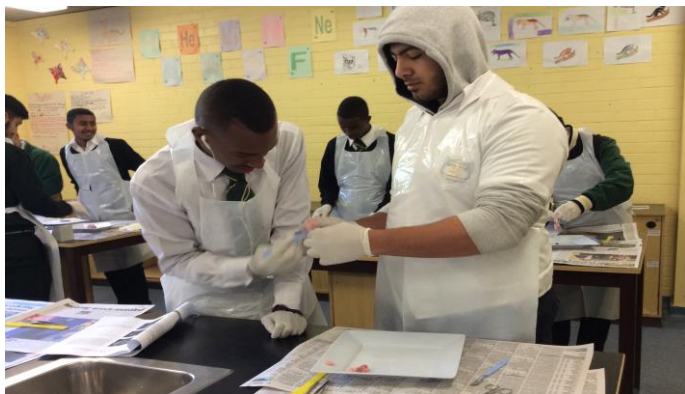
This term, year 9 have been trained in the art of deception and secrecy as part of their Spy Fiction Unit. Within this sequence, year 9 compare classic texts such as the original Get Smart series with modern day narratives such as the graphic novel *Storm Breaker*. Following on from this, year 9 have been involved in a close study of the text *I Robot*. In summary, we now have a cohort divided: Half of the students want to be spies, the other half fancy themselves as part robotic. We are glad they enjoyed the units either way.

Year 8 are wrapping their final few weeks of work, looking at varying texts and concepts. The enrichment class are busy getting into the spirit of adventure as they come to the end of their study of the classic text *Treasure Island*. Students have been analysing the structure of the narrative as well key characters through both prose and film. Other year 8 classes have been

exploring notions of belonging and friendship through an analysis of the classic Australian film *Footy Legends*. This text provides numerous interesting points of discussion, particularly, ideas of displacement and alienation that one may feel when attempting to assimilate into a new society.

Year 7 has been busy this term brushing up on their Elizabethan acting skills. Through a Study of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, Year 7 has been examining the role of physical appearance in society, specifically, how people treat women differently to men. As a related text, students are analysing the film *She's The Man* in order to provide a contemporary perspective on the issue. This unit has provided students with the opportunity to explore texts through varying mediums and has also allowed them to create their own, unique narratives through writing and performance.

Once again, we at the English Faculty would like to say a big **GOOD LUCK** to all year twelve students!



## HSIE REPORT

### Mr Mandarakas

Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) includes the study of histories, geography, societies and culture and other human oriented sciences.” Human Society and Its Environment is the key learning area in which students develop knowledge, understandings, skills, and values and attitudes about people and their social and physical environments. In the HSIE faculty students are challenged to come up with solutions to such issues as improving the play areas around the school, students have presented their individual research projects to a varied audience at Sydney University and students have also viewed an exhibition on the First World War and given feedback to the NSW State Library. Within the Faculty staff have presented at the School's Staff Development Day and are now working on creating and implementing a faculty literacy strategy that supports the needs of all students.

Students in Year 7 have responded well to the new national Curriculum. Did you know the word mummy is derived from the Arabic word “mummiya” and the Persian word “mum” meaning wax? Students have offered an incredible number of facts about human

remains from the past. The number of students who have successfully completed their presentation on a mummy is extremely pleasing as is the high quality of their work.

With us this term is Mr Thompson who has taken on the teaching of Year 8 Geography. Students this term have studied a wide range of social issues including the issue of why clean water is so important yet so difficult to have in all parts of the world. Students learnt to make a water filter using a sponge, gravel and sand.

In Year 9 students are looking at the differences and similarities of Australia's participation in World War I and II. Teachers are introducing the assessment task to students who will research the Home Front.

In Year 10 History students are currently working on researching an aspect of the Vietnam War. Students will collate their information to create a presentation on various aspects of the Vietnam War including weaponry, conscription and protests, key battles and the effects of war on soldiers.

In Year 10 Geography have just completed their group work task on a contemporary geographical issue. Especially popular were land degradation, coastal management and air pollution. Students have developed an awareness of the issues confronting Sydney's population and are realizing that we, as members of a community have a part to play.

After many months of working on their individual research projects Mr Bellavia took his Modern History class to Sydney University on the 23 August. Students presented their research on a subject of their choice in the Oriental room to Students from Sydney University, students from Miller High School and the acting dean of History Penny Miller. In the picture are some of the students working with their tutor who as final year students has volunteered for this project.

Finally as this will be the last Bulletin for this term I would like to congratulate all year 12 students and wish them success in the upcoming HSC. Teachers have begun issuing revision booklets and finalizing dates to stay back after school or meet up in the holidays to finalise exam technique and revise work covered in the Year 12 course.

## Maths REPORT

### Ms Ram

Term 3 is almost over and it has been very busy for both students and teachers. The year 12 students are in their final few weeks of school before the HSC commences. . They have just completed their last HSC assessment in Maths. This task was worth 20% of their course work. Students would benefit from taking up suggestions given to them as feedback to improve their success in the HSC examination. For students to do well



they must embark on a study routine to improve their ability to recall and apply knowledge when needed. It is very important to revise by doing questions from past exam papers because mathematical skills can only be refined by regular practice. Maths is a “doing” subject and the more a student practices the better developed his skills and techniques become. Students can practise questions from past HSC examinations online via this link:

<http://www4.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/course/higher-school-certificate/general-mathematics/> The following link provides revision on content that may have become a little rusty.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study> Students can download this App on their smart phones, iPads or Samsung android devices and have immediate help whenever they need. This app is not just for Maths but English and other subjects as well. It is free to download.

At the beginning of this term (7<sup>th</sup> August) 28 students from across all years sat for the Australian Mathematics Competition. This is a very competitive exam and is run at the school each year. Students from many nations participate to demonstrate their logical thinking and problem solving skills.

At Granville Boys year 7 and 8 students would participate in Literacy and Numeracy activities during week 8 of term 3. A number of engaging and exciting activities have been organised by the Literacy and Numeracy teams with the aim of creating an awareness of lateral thinking and problem solving skills among students.

### **New Year Australian Curriculum**

In 2015, year 8 and 10 will commence with the new Australian curriculum. Teachers are currently in the process of writing and refining programs for these years. Parents can access further information on the new Australian curriculum from the Board of studies website so as to familiarise themselves with the curriculum content so that they can help their children with homework. Just a reminder that homework club operates every Monday and Wednesday from 3 – 4 pm. Mr Jordan is there to help students with their Maths and other teachers are also present to help with other subjects.

### **Conflict Resolution**

**Have you ever had a conflict and wished you could have handled it better?**

Conflict comes about from differences - in needs, values and motivations. Sometimes through these differences we complement each other, but sometimes we will conflict. Conflict is not a problem in itself - it is what we do with it that counts. It is important that we do something because whether we like it or not, conflicts demand our energy. In fact, an unresolved conflict can call on tremendous amounts of our attention. We all know how exhausting an unresolved

conflict can be. It is not always easy to fix the problem but a great energy boost can come when we do. Resolving conflict requires skills.

### **What are Conflict Resolution Skills?**

They are the skills that enable us to bypass personal differences and to open up to possibilities. The skills of conflict resolution draw us closer to other people, as we jointly search for fair solutions and balanced needs. It involves a powerful shift from adversaries to co-operative partners. In this shift each person benefits.

### **Conflict Resolution Skills Create Better Work**



### **Climates and More Fulfilling Relationships**

For the organisational manager, skilful conflict-handling is an important managerial tool. Conflict can be seen as an opportunity for learning more about the company - its bottle-necks and inefficiencies, as well as its areas of expertise. The learning potential of conflict often goes unrecognised when staff and management react with "fight" or "flight". "Flow", the third way, requires Conflict Resolution skills.

These skills are also the tools for building friendship and intimacy. A whole new level of trust develops as people learn "we can work it out". Relationships become more fulfilling and supporting.

These are some ways in which you can resolve a conflict. They are: The Win/Win Approach, The Creative Response, Empathy, Appropriate Assertiveness, Co-operative Power, Managing Emotions, and Willingness to Resolve, Mapping the Conflict, Development of Options, Negotiation Skills, Third Party Mediation and Broadening Perspectives. Conflict Resolution skills teach the psychology of effective communication. Adapted from Conflict Resolution Network: [www.crnhq.org](http://www.crnhq.org).

## **Teaching & Learning REPORT**

### **Ms Cullenward**

It's wonderful to be back in the 'hurlyburly' that is daily school life at GBHS. Many thanks to Mr Rutherford for the splendid job he did whilst keeping watch in the Teaching & Learning portfolio in terms 1 and 2 during my leave.

## TAS REPORT

Mr Odei

The school conference for 2014 was held over the first weekend of term and was a forum to showcase staff collaboration. Each faculty presentation was a really exciting snapshot of the extremely hard work demonstrated by all staff in meeting the needs of our students and improving their learning outcomes.

Earlier in the year the Peer Coaching program extended its structure to include all Head Teachers. The Peer Coach Leaders were very focused in providing support for all classroom teachers, including head teachers, in implementing the 'Reading To Learn' program. Each faculty presented protocols and strategies found to be effective in our classrooms. These protocols and strategies build on the original program to address the identified learning needs at GBHS.

This term, the Peer Coach Leaders and their peers, have been further developing selected strategies to ensure that the Reading To Learn program is a daily habit in our students' learning. Some of this class work will be videoed to enable the teachers to reflect on the teaching and learning cycle and to share their learning experiences with other staff members.

Hard work is not confined to the curriculum and classwork, however. Teachers and students have participated in many extra-curricular activities as well: excursions; incursions; special programs for curriculum, careers, leadership and citizenship; performing arts. The students enjoy these authentic opportunities and learning experiences which help to enhance their educational outcomes.

The teaching teams have also been really busy carrying out their responsibilities in the school plan. The High Performance Team is in the process of producing a number of Integrated Learning Tasks as is the Participation team. They will also be mapping learning outcomes from each KLA; the Literacy and Numeracy teams have implemented special programs for years 7 and 8 students, to celebrate Literacy and Numeracy Week. The literacy team is mapping the learning requirements for each faculty against the DEC's literacy continuum.

It has been a very busy and productive term for teaching staff and students alike. Everyone (students in years 7-11) will enjoy the school break and will return in term 4 ready for assessment and reporting for second semester. I wish all our HSC candidates the very best of luck in their examinations and hope they are able to make the most of their final study time during the vacation. Happy holidays!



It is a pleasure to keep you abreast with all that is happening in TAS. An appropriate word to describe the term we've had would be "amazing". The TAS staff returned to Term 3 full of energy and were eager in their preparation for our school's annual conference in week one.

Leading up to the conference there was tremendous effort, time and dedication put forth by the TAS staff in implementing reading and writing strategies to engage students in our faculty with particular emphasis on stage 4 students. On behalf of the TAS faculty Mr. Odei presented to the rest of the staff the methodologies used in TAS to address reading and writing in our context. We were particularly pleased with the level of engagement demonstrated by our students during the implementation of the reading and writing process. Overall it was a great conference and I would like to thank the TAS staff for their hard work on implementing the strategies.

### Extra curricula activities

Year 10 Food Technology students recently visited Ultimo TAFE for a formal luncheon as part of their Food Service and Catering unit of work. The day consisted of a tour of the TAFE facilities, meeting with current students and teachers followed by a delicious 3 course meal. The boys gained a greater understanding of the Hospitality industry as a possible career option.

Also, the Year 11 Hospitality class is developing a wide range of food and beverage skills. Students have enjoyed preparing non-alcoholic Mocktails such as Frappes and Daiquiris' as part of the curriculum.

The Eid community dinner was a resounding success mostly for the hard work and effort of many many people including, Greater Sydney Western Gaints (AFL), Hawa chicken Granville, Abu Hussein mixed business (Granville), teachers, students and families. The catering of the event was coordinated by Ms. Rodriguez and her numerous assistants comprising of staff, parents and students. We greatly appreciate your contributions.

The NSW state solar car/boat challenge took place on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of September at the University of New South Wales and Granville Boys High School was represented in both events by stage 4 students. The new entrants to the competition did our school proud claiming fourth place in the Boat race and a wild card entry to the national championship. In the car races we were knocked out by the eventual winner in the round of 16. The students Melik Ibrahim, Abdul Wilson, Ali El Moubayed, Fadi and Hani Alameddine had fun during the competition and are already planning to improve on the effort next year. Well done to the solar team!

## Teaching and learning

Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber and Design and Technology students completed their major works and presented them for marking this term. The technique and innovation demonstrated in their various designs were of high quality. Well done to all of our Year 12 students and wish them the very best as they prepare for their HSC examinations. Also, a big thank you to their teachers who supported them during the process.

Mr. Benic has been honing the technical skills of his students and that has assisted in building confidence in the students, fully engaged and enjoying their learning. His students have produced and evaluated projects including bedside table, Jewelry box and wooden toys among others.

This is a collage of all that has transpired in TAS in term 3.

Thank you to all of the TAS staff whose selfless contributions provide opportunities for our students to achieve success.

You've earned it. Enjoy the break!



## Careers and Transition Team Ms Bailey-Marsman

### Week 7 Careers and Transition News

#### Year 12

Students are now coming to the end stretch of their High School life. This term they have had Guest Speakers from Universities and Private Providers giving them information on post-school pathways.

Those completing a Non-ATAR pathway have been given information about TAFE, Private Providers and Employment Agencies contact details. Whilst those sitting their Higher School Certificate and going onto

University have been busy with completing Educational Access Scheme applications, Scholarship applications and University courses applications.

Don't forget if you have not received your four digit PIN number that you need to access your application to UAC then you need to see me immediately.

All closing dates are September 30 2014. **Please note that with the Educational Access Scheme applications these are due back to the Career Adviser on September 14 2014.** This allows the Career Adviser to complete all Educational Impact Statements for all applicants. The Educational Access Scheme applications will then be mailed from school BEFORE the due date.

Students have also been notified of upcoming University and Private Provider Open Days.

### AN EXCELLENT TOOL TO ASSIST YOUR SON IN RESEARCHING POST-SCHOOL OPTIONS [job.jump.com.au](http://job.jump.com.au)

To log on you put in your school email address and your **school password is jaguar**. This is a great informative one stop website that gives you access to universities, ATARs, private providers, TAFE and employment agencies, videos on careers and loads of other information at the click of a button.

#### Year 10

Year 10 have attended, with a parent, their subject selection interviews conducted by Mr Marciniak, Mr Collins and either Mr Hryce or Mrs Bailey-Marsman, for their senior studies.

Students should have been thinking about what they may like to be doing for their Work Experience Program which begins in Week 7 of Term 4 and finishes the end of Week 8 Term 4. (November 17 – 28) Students have attended one White Card Induction Course this term. This allows students, who are thinking of doing a trade for work experience, to enter a construction worksite. Those students who have yet to attend a White Card Induction Course will need to attend the Second White Card Induction Course being held early Term 4. You will need to see Mr Hryce or Mrs Bailey-Marsman to put your name down.

A Parent Information letter regarding the Work Experience will go home later this term. Year 10 students will be participating in a Work Ready Program prior to starting work experience as well.

#### Other News

It's been great seeing students complete or up-date their resumes and apply for casual jobs online.

#### Employment contacts:

- **Parramatta Smash Repairs**

Apprenticeship opportunities in Panel beating, Spray, Painting and spraying

[www.parramattasmashrepaires.com.au](http://www.parramattasmashrepaires.com.au)

- **Defence Jobs**



Defencejobs.gov.au

• **Retail**

Colescareers.com.au

• **Apprenticeships in various careers**

[www.aapathways.com.au](http://www.aapathways.com.au)

## Learning Services Report

### Ms Adderley

This term the Learning Assistance Support Teachers have been working with year seven and eight students in small groups or individually to improve their literacy with an emphasis on developing comprehension. There has been a very exciting buzz in the library with students trying to get the premiers reading challenge finished by the 31<sup>st</sup> of August. Many students are coming down during recess and lunch to read and write up the books that they have read for the Premiers Reading Challenge. Last year 20 boys in total complete the challenge this year we already have 11 boys finished and many more working hard to complete the challenge.

We have many university tutors coming in to work with students. This is a great benefit for students and both the University tutor and our student benefit greatly from these opportunities as well as have a good time.

Homework club is running on Monday and Wednesday from 3pm till 4pm. On Tuesday afternoon between 1pm and 2.30pm there is HSC support available University tutors are also attending homework club. If you have any questions regarding Homework club feel free to contact myself. If your son/ward is having difficulty with homework and assessment please direct him to the homework club.

Miss Love took a group of boys into the Police and Justice Museum, where they were consulted but the 'Living Museum Group' on an upcoming exhibition. Miss Love and the boys are very excited about returning to see what advice was taken.

Remember reading is an essential element of learning students who read do better in tests including NAPLAN and the HSC. Reading should be done every night for at least 20 minutes.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns about your son/wards learning



## Support Report

### Ms Rudek

During this term, our faculty was asked by the Institute for Positive Psychology and Education of the Catholic University to participate in a project on the Effects of the school environment and physical activity and sport on the psychological wellbeing and health of children with intellectual disabilities. The study of questions that our students participated in had been rarely studied in a population with intellectual disabilities, and even more rarely by the simultaneous consideration of information reported by the students themselves, their parents, and by us their teachers. These results have the potential to provide rich avenues of action for school communities wishing to adapt their practices to this population. Our faculty will be completing the physical aspect of the project next term and I will inform you with the results in the next Bulletin.

Our senior students have begun to develop and up-date their Resumes during class time with the Careers Adviser. This is an ongoing process and very important to their work experience placements and future post-school pathways. The work experience program is operating successfully every Friday and students are either currently working in jobs that they really enjoy or are speaking to prospective employers about suitable work experience placements they may have available.

My class has recently completed a mini project at Parramatta Stadium with Mel, myself, Nabila and Chris Baker. We have been filming our students completing skits on Bullying and their effects on the individual. Students have made some valuable contributions and have gained knowledge and understanding of the concept of being a bully and being bullied.

I would like to wish my staff and students a great holiday.





