

# Bulletin

## Issue 1 Term 4, 2014



### GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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“A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN”



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# RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Mallios

## Deputy Principals Report – Jim Mallios

As 2014 draws to a close I'd like to thank the staff, students and parents for a great year. At the end of my tenth year at GBHS I have been successful in an application for Deputy Principal at James Cook Boys Technology High School. I will commence service at my new school in January 2015.

I will forever value my time at Granville Boys and the friendships I developed with past and present colleagues. The culture of professional learning and leadership opportunities provided to me by Principals Linda O'Brien and previously Angela Lyris have truly developed my educational pedagogy. My senior executive co-workers, Mark Marciniak, Frank Abas, and previously Brian Miller and Nathan Towney provided a supportive environment for me to develop my leadership skills.

For the Majority of Term 4 I have undertaken the Relieving Principal position whilst Linda was on leave, this provided opportunities to collaborate with the school community about the vision for the school and how the school will work with the community to get there. I'd like to thank the staff working in acting and relieving senior executive roles throughout Term 4, Nathaniel Doidge, Nahida Jamal, Melinda Adderley and Maina Ram. Your ongoing support of students, parents and staff ensured a positive end to my time at GBHS.

This term we were able to lock in the Trade Skills Centre plans and schedule for construction, the new building will be attached to the gymnasium at the front of the school with a 40sqm deck. This will provide for the café relocation and create a welcoming atmosphere to the front of the school. Construction is scheduled to commence in July 2015 and conclude in January 2016.

We have implemented the SMS text messaging system for absences, late to school and information for parents about events across all year groups. Messages are sent out between 11 – 12:30pm daily for absences and late to school notices. Parents can reply by text to absence notifications, general text information cannot be replied to so please give us a call on the school phone number. If you change your mobile number please contact the school office so we can update our system.

In 2015 GBHS will have a Smartphone App appearing in the Apple iTunes store and the Android store. Parents, students and community members will be able to receive bulletin information and notices for activities by school or year group. Calendar information will be available and links for parents to access their child's individual school profile via a secure password system.

## Some exciting activities from Term 4

### Social Ventures Australia

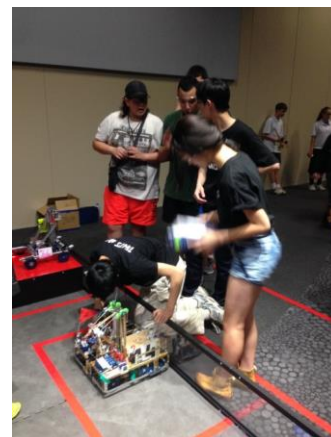
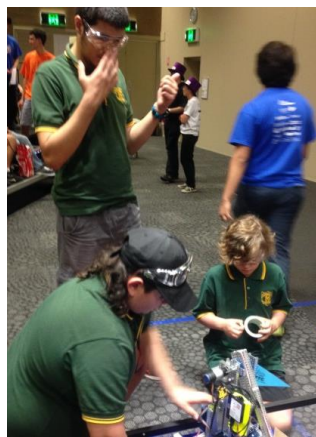
Bilal Zreika was an invited guest at the The SVA Education Dialogue on the 15th October, 2014. The core challenge for the Education Dialogue this year was how to address inequity by spreading good practice by bring together a unique group from across education, philanthropy, business, government and academia. They focus on identifying innovation, catalysing focus and energy and connecting networks of people who are committed to finding new solutions to ensure disadvantaged children have a better chance to thrive at school and consequently in life. Bilal spoke with pride about

Granville Boys High School and what the students here require to be engaged in their learning. He shared the stage with three international guests Dr Kevan Collins, CEO, Education Endowment Foundation, UK, Associate Professor Woon Chia Liu, Dean of Teacher Education, National Institute of Education, Singapore and David Albury, Director, Innovation Unit, UK who all shared their experiences with SVA Education Dialogue participants.



### First Tech Challenge

2 teams of students gave up their weekend to participate in Macquarie University First Tech Challenge (FTC) robotics program on the 8th and 9th December, 2014. Students were challenged to build and program their own robots for the competition. They applied a broad range of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) knowledge. Macquarie University tutors have been mentoring students through the process and teaching them the importance of working together, sharing ideas and treating others with respect and dignity. The teams successfully reached the Nationals by qualifying 3rd, well done boys.



### First Lego League

Granville Boys High school was fortunate to host the Macquarie University First Lego League (FLL) Challenge tournament at the school on the 19th November. 17 teams of students from various schools across Sydney attended to participate in this annual event. The tournament Challenge has three parts: the Robot Game, the Project and the FLL Core Values. Teams participated in the Challenge by programming an autonomous robot to score points on a themed playing field (Robot Game), developing a solution to a problem they have identified (Project), all guided by the FLL Core Values. 3 teams from our school participated with one team 'The Pizza people' winning the Project Challenge with their innovative teaching solutions for ESL students.





**Auburn Review Citizenship Award 2014 - Jihad El Moubayed**

Jihad El Moubayed was nominated for the citizenship award for his ongoing participation in Granville Boys' High School Pulse café. Jihad played a key role in ensuring the ongoing success of our café project by attending school at 7.30 am on a daily basis since the beginning of Term 1 2013. Jihad is also an outstanding role model for his peers and provides peer to peer training for other students wishing to work in the café.

As a result of his participation he has gained skills that have transformed his engagement and attitude within the classroom.

The Granville community is a vibrant place to have worked for an extended period of time, I have met many people who have attended or worked at Granville over the years with everyone having affection for their school. I look forward to maintaining my relationships with the community, parents, students and staff, and hope that our paths will cross again.



**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

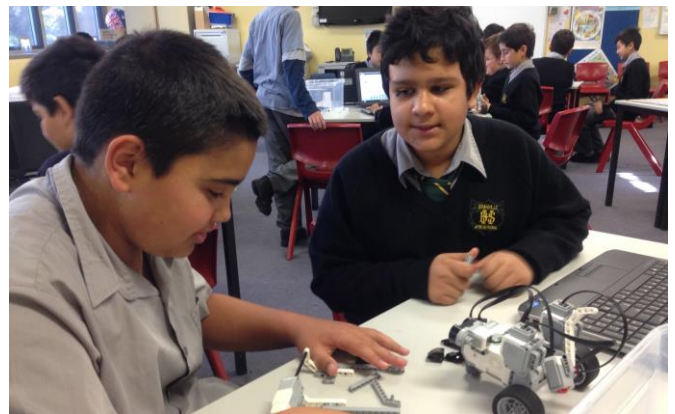
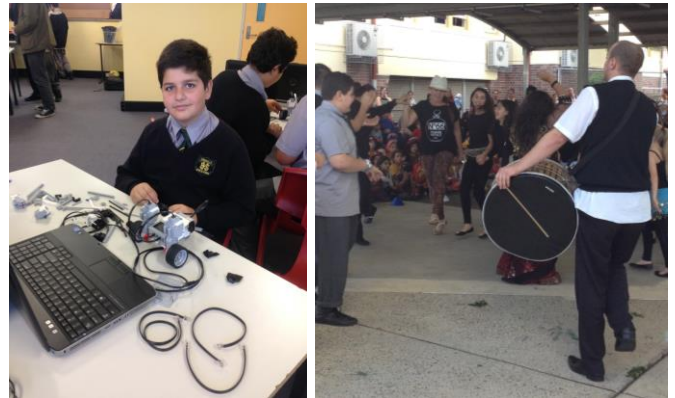
**Mr Taylor**

As the equity funded deputy principal at GBHS for terms 3 and 4 in 2014, I have found my introduction and integration into its many varied and dynamic processes and procedures both challenging and rewarding. I have been welcomed by both staff and students alike, and have managed to build many positive relationships with the varied groups of students across all years.

I have been fortunate enough to be offered this position again for 2015. My aim will be to help guide the stage six students towards their final HSC exams, as well as to focus on whole school planning in curriculum presentation and technology systems. I have also enjoyed working with the welfare and learning support teams, and I look forward to continue in

these roles for next year. I also hope to be able to teach a timetabled class, which should also help to build relationships with the students and community as a whole.

I hope the GBHS students and their families have a safe and relaxing 5 week break, and return in late January 2015 ready for another year of relevant and differentiated public education.



**ENGLISH REPORT**

**Mr Budnik**

The days are warming up and the roses at the front gate are in bloom, a celebratory time of year for students and teachers alike. It has been an eventful term so far in the English faculty with numerous whole school projects being overseen. This is the final term with Mr. Budnik as head teacher, and plans are already underway to organise lots of exciting initiatives for 2015.

Year 12 Advanced and Standard students have completed their HSC English examinations and we wish them all the best for their results and future plans. Miss Gandouin is busily marking HSC Paper 1, which will be a valuable

learning experience that will benefit future HSC English students as a whole.

Year 11 have now commenced their first HSC modules, this effectively being their first term of Year 12. The Advanced class are studying the poetry of W.B. Yeats as part of Module B, arguably the most challenging module of all! Year 12 Standard are currently studying the novel *The Story of Tom Brennan*, while English Studies are working on a module entitled The Big Screen – English in Film Making. All students are encouraged to keep up their hard work as the year wraps up.

A number of exciting excursions and workshops have also taken place, with more to come. Year 11 students attended a production of *The Removalists* in Term 3, whereas junior students attended an in-school poetry workshop in Term 4. Teachers from the English faculty have also been instrumental in organising the school drama club and also a workshop for the film and drama class. This led to a GBHS original production, performed at Parramatta Riverside Theatre, and also an in school film festival which will occur during Term 4.

Year 10 has been wrapping up a truth and justice unit based on the film text *The Hurricane*. Having now completed all their major assessments and examinations, they will begin consolidating their knowledge and skills in preparation for the year 11 course. We wish them well as they begin their journey as senior students of the school.

The Year 9 cohort has been working on various units, with some classes completing a comparison of *Hamlet* and the *Lion King*, while others have been examining the genre of Spy Fiction, with *Alex Rider* being the core text. This module has been received with great enthusiasm, and will benefit the students greatly as it helps them become more confident identifying and analysing techniques used in prose and also film.

Year 8 has been reading and comparing texts from various sources, focusing on media. The Enrichment Class has been analysing the construction of visual advertisements and how they affect audiences. This unit is part of a brand new array of units been trailed in the school, with the aim of helping students to draw links between subjects and to engage in hands on learning in non-traditional classroom settings.

Year 7 has been studying the *Iron Giant* in order to brush up on their understanding of film techniques and how they help shape meaning in texts. Previously, this cohort completed a unit on dragons and how mythological creatures are represented in texts. This unit was a great success and we in the English Faculty would like to congratulate the boys on their efforts.

We would like to wish everybody a pleasant, safe and productive summer holiday and look forward to seeing everybody back for another excellent year of English in 2015.



## Science Report

Ms Kotelawela



The Science Headquarters

### Years 7-11 Youth Eco Summit

The University of Western Sydney in conjunction with Sydney Olympic Park offered the students from years 7-11 the opportunity to participate in the Youth Eco Summit 2014. On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October a group of Years 7-11 students led by Miss Vitetta and Mr. Hathaway participated in a series of first-hand investigations and interactive workshops. These activities were aimed at improving the students' understanding of renewable energy and sustainability. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

### ESSA online 2014

Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) online is an interactive test containing video, audio, animations, graphics, texts and a variety of text types. All Year 8 students in NSW government schools should complete ESSAonline. The year 8 boys at GBHS completed ESSAonline on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### Yearly Exams and Assessments

All Yr.9 and Yr.10 students have completed their yearly examinations. Yr.7, 8 & 11 have completed their assessments for this semester.

### **Science students enjoying their practical experiences in the school laboratory and outdoors.**

### **Yr. 11 chemistry boys making models after testing for unsaturation in carbon compounds**

### **Year 6 transition day was yet another success at GBHS**

The year 6 boys conducted a series of investigations with Miss Vitetta in the Science faculty. They examined hair samples, footprints and fingerprints as evidence for conducting a crime scene investigation and many more.

### Yr. 7 in-school excursion Skyworks Planetarium

The *GBHS Science faculty* is committed to providing for our students the maximum possible opportunities to see and understand the applications of science and technology in the world around us.

In line with this policy, on 13 October 2014, *Skyworks Planetarium* visited the school to present an exciting 50 minute Presentation on Astronomy for our Year 7 students.



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!



## MATHS REPORT

### Ms Khan (Relieving HT)

This term is coming to an end and the teachers in the Mathematics faculty have been busy with assessing students for their yearly reports. Many of the junior students have performed extremely well in their assessments.

The year 11 students have also had their first formal HSC assessment task and this is worth 20% of their assessment mark for the final HSC exams. Students in year 11 should take the opportunity during the Christmas holidays to catch up and master the content of the preliminary course and the first topics of the HSC course. The BOSTES website has past examination papers with the solutions and comments from the markers. Students should read through the markers comments to see where most of the mistakes were made by previous students. Students should also attempt the questions related to the topics they have completed to get an idea of the examination type questions and start preparing for their HSC exams.

During last term, 28 students from our schools took part in the Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC). These students were from all year levels. This is a competition where students from many countries in the Asia Pacific region take part. Two of our students were awarded a distinction grade for their efforts. Congratulations to Daniel Hoang (Year 7) and Jony Kaushik (Year 11) for their efforts. Ten of the students were also awarded a credit grade.

In preparation for the beginning of term 1 of the new school year, students should get themselves ready to be back in school by making sure they have all the equipment they require. A 5mm A5 grid book, calculator and other stationery will be needed for an effective start to learning next year.



## LEARNING SERVICES REPORT

### Ms Adderley

Recently the staff of the Learning Services Team have been post testing the reading group students. The boys have been very excited to see themselves going up test levels, they have been insisting on staff making the test straight away to see if they get to do the next test. Many of the students have jumped numerous levels, these students have worked hard all year and should be congratulated on their efforts.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of wide reading (which is the reading of a variety of texts) often for recreational purposes. With the summer holidays fast approaching it is important to encourage boys to continue to read over the holiday, some recommended strategies are:

- Have books available at home
- Let your children see you reading for pleasure  
Borrow books from your local library
- Show enthusiasm for your children's reading – ask them  
what they are reading,  
what they like,  
recommend to them books you have read  
read the same book so you can discuss it
- Fathers reading for pleasure encourages boys to read

Reading is directly related to comprehension - the more you read the more your comprehension will improve, thus helping you to understand what you are reading.

Boys often tend to like stories with:

Books with a male protagonist (main character)

Action books

Fantasy books

Graphic novels

Some useful website about encouraging boys to read are:

<http://www.gettingboystoread.com/>

<http://www.scholastic.com/resources/article/if-your-boy-wont-read>

<http://www.readingrants.org/category/boy-meets-book/>

<http://childrensbooks.about.com/od/toppicks/tp/summer->

reading-list-for-teen-boys.htm

The Learning Services team is made up of a diverse group of teachers and support staff. I would take a moment to reflect on the efforts of the faculty and give a small insight into the sort of work they do, also I would like to thank the staff of the Learning Services Faculty for their efforts throughout the year:

Ms Das, the ESL teacher, has been working hard with many of the classroom teachers demonstrating and assisting in the implementation of "Reading to Learn" the literacy program that is being implemented across the school.

Ms Love, one of our Learning and Support Teachers, has been doing a fantastic job running homework club this year and managing the tutors that come for homework club and also the tutors we get during the day. Many of the students have benefited from working with the tutors either individually or in small groups.

Mr Chebib another Learning and Support Teachers is working hard organising the Premier Reading Challenge excursion for over 40 boys who completed the Premier Reading Challenge by reading 20 books before the end of August.

Mr Hones, role too hard to describe, has been putting in a great deal of time supporting students both in class, in small groups and in the community in order to assist students to reach their potential.

Ms McLean ran out inaugural Book Fair, which outstanding success. She has also been doing some fantastic work with students in small groups.

Ms Bailey (Careers Adviser) has supported this year's HSC students with their applications This year we have seen applications to a more diversity in courses and universities. Mr Hryce (Transition Officer) has been as usual been run off his feet supporting students who want to move into the workforce.

Ms Holloway and Ms Sivrioglu (Libray Assistance) have been the backbone of the running of the Learning and Support team, while teacher have been running around looking for students, working with students, testing students etc. both these wonderful ladies have keep everything running.

We have had a few Student learning Support Officers this year, Ms Michelle, Ms Simone and Hicham they have been working in class with many of our students. Staff and students appreciate their effort.

Ms Zaphir has volunteered her services again this year, she has been a fantastic support for staff and students. She has been loved by the students and appreciated by the staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for giving up a day a week to volunteer with us here.

If any other parents or family members would like to volunteer to work with students both in and out of the classroom it would be greatly appreciated.

Finally please remember

**Students who read independently become better readers, score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not** (Krashen 1993; Cunningham and Stanovich 1991; Stanovich and Cunningham 1993).

Have a wonderful break and read a good book



## CAPA REPORT

Ms Libdy

The CAPA faculty has had a very busy Semester. All the teachers in this Faculty have been working hard to ensure that students are being exposed to as many creative opportunities as possible.

The band boys were a huge success at 'Our Spectacular' at the Sydney Opera House on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. They worked very hard with Mr Calvert, Miss Su and Luis a Concert Band Conductor to perfect and perform 'I couldn't live without your love'. They were the first on stage and they were fantastic. They made the school very proud indeed. The performance will be posted on the school website if you wish to see how well our boys performed.

We also had a visit from Woodridge State high school Queensland earlier on in the year where our band boys, senior and junior Arabic band participated in activities and a special concert with their students. We had a fabulous time and the concert was a great success. We finished off the evening with dinner. The students and staff from Woodridge had a fantastic time and they expressed interest in coming back again. It is important that we liaise with other schools and expose our students to different cultures and experiences as this kind of education is invaluable.

Five of our students are involved in the School Spectacular. They auditioned for Hip Hop dancing and they were accepted. They have been solidly rehearsing in preparation for the performance which is on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of November. Mr Chick has been accompanying the boys to the rehearsals. We would like to wish the boys all the best.

The Arabic Junior and Senior band have been going strong, Ahmad Hoblos their tutor comes in every Thursday to rehearse with the boys.

Jacob is another Music tutor who comes in every Friday. He tutors the boys in Trombone, Trumpet, Saxophone and Guitar. He has done a tremendous job with our boys. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both Ahmad and Jacob for their hard work and dedication to helping our boys. Our Visual Arts Department has been doing great work with the boys. Mr Collins will be having an Art exhibition in week 10 of all of his Year 8 Enrichment Sculptures. This will be



held in the Library. Hopefully this will be the first of many exhibitions that will be held at school.

The Computing Faculty is also going strong. Many of the VET IDT students have completed their first work placement for the HSC course. They will require to complete a second placement in 2015. The year 9 IST cohort has been taught many skills this year. They have learnt how to design a game, create HTML coding and create a Website. They also learnt how to animate.

We would like to wish our HSC students best of luck with their upcoming results. They have worked very hard in our courses and we truly hope they achieve the best possible results.

The Goals program also came to an end this Term. The students had their last session on October the 24<sup>th</sup> at PwC. This incorporated the closing ceremony. The students had the opportunity to thank their Mentors for being part of the program. The students gained invaluable skills and confidence that can be used throughout their lives.

On Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of November I took 20 Year 11 students to the Sydney Town Hall to listen to Australian barrister, human rights advocate and author, **Julian Burnside AO QC** was the recipient of the 2014 Sydney Peace Prize. The same boys also attended Cabramatta High school peace day on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November. Our Arabic drumming boys also performed at the Sydney Town Hall. They received fantastic reviews from the organisers and audience members.

Together for Humanity has been a great success this year. We have had many great sessions at school and on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, an excursion was organised as part of the Together for Humanity group with students from Cronulla High School. This initiative is designed to develop deep and lasting peer relationships between students from diverse cultural and religious communities over a period of a year. The focus of the initiative is to promote tolerance and a sense of belonging to a shared peer group with shared concerns for social harmony. We went to the Sydney Showground Stadium at Homebush. They met up the AFL team Greater Western Sydney Giants. A great day was had by all.

I am very proud of our boys and the way they represent themselves in the wider community. They are a credit to their parents. They represent our school with pride and respect. I am always honoured to be in their company and I am also honoured when people from the community comment on how wonderfully behaved and respectful our boys are.

On behalf of my faculty, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our students and parents a wonderful holiday. For those families celebrating Christmas, we hope you have a wonderful time with your families and loved ones. Merry Christmas from the Creative and Performing Arts faculty. Have a safe and happy holiday.



## TAS REPORT

### Mr Odei

It has been a busy academic year for the TAS faculty. This year has seen both staff and students engage in various learning activities. The year 2014 kicked off with our orientation program for the new Year 7's who are now well and truly part of the GBHS furniture. To give you a flashback, the Year 7 cohort were involved in the Moroccan feast orientation program where they prepared food and invited their parents for a luncheon at the school. Our Year 9 Food Technology class visited the Royal Easter show and were involved in various cooking activities including making sushi and milling grains. Of course they went on rides after all the learning activities.

In Term two the Year 8 Enrichment class in TAS worked with first year design students from Sydney University on a bespoke of design ideas to meet a client's need. The boys were really engaged and enjoyed the whole process. They made models of various design ideas and learnt key design thinking skills.

The beginning of Term three TAS staff worked diligently to put together literacy learning activities and student work samples to present to the rest of the whole school at our annual staff conference. As a group we gained an insight into what other faculties are doing in terms of implementing literacy strategies in their curricula. There was a lot of positive vibe and enthusiasm after the conference which was a great opportunity for staff to build upon as we continue to fine tune literacy implementation across the school.

Students and staff have continued to work diligently in the classroom this term. The VET Construction and Hospitality students have been completing their assessment tasks as well as their mandatory work placements. Congratulations to all students for their hard work and outstanding comments received from employers. The Hospitality students demonstrated outstanding understanding of customer service needs and culturally sensitive awareness. Year 11

Engineering Studies students went on an excursion to Wollongong University to take part in various engineering activities to introduce them to the HSC course. Their teacher Mr. Benic was pleased with the level of engaged during the excursion. On the last weekend of November our solar boat team participated in the National championship and made it to the quarter finals. Congratulations to Abdul Wilson, Zafir Ali and Ali El-Moubayed. The team was very promising and look forward to next year's competitions.

## Careers Report

### Mrs Bailey-Marsman

#### Year 12

Students will soon be getting their ATAR results. Please don't forget that the Careers and Transition Team is available to work with you if you haven't been offered your first choice. Contact the school on 96370489 to make an appointment or contact the Career Adviser on [bernadette.bailey@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bernadette.bailey@det.nsw.edu.au)

**Important career resource for all years**  
**[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

Students have been busy completing the Work Ready Program, All My Own Work, School to Work Survey and Work Experience.

We had a mixture of work places this year for work experience. Majority of students worked in the trade sector – building, kitchens, wardrobes, telecommunications, plumbing, etc. Retail also had a large number participating and a number of students picked up holiday work – Nazem Kanj, Adam Hamoui, Ubdullah Alameddine, David Gatluak, Alofi Leapai, Jimi Valu, Khaled Hawat

Employers were very impressed with our students. Comments ranged from:

'Well behaved', 'very polite', 'excellent worker, he's always asking for jobs', 'great communication, the customers love him', 'always on time and I don't have to keep checking on him'.

Those students working in the trades have done themselves proud. There were a few job offers for the holiday break and some offers of apprenticeships. I guess in the New Year we will see who took offers up. All up I'm very proud of our students who have participated and have learnt from their work experiences. They represented themselves, their families and Granville Boys High School extremely well and should be congratulated.

- There were **31** students doing a Trade  
5 in hospitality and 26 in building related areas
- **8** in an office environment. This included business, accounting and legal services
- **28** in Retail
- **1** in Health

#### We had 5 students complete work experience with 2 employers

- 2 did both weeks in building related areas
- 1 did a week in legal services and the second in building
- 1 did a week in building and the second week in go-kart racing

I did both weeks in different restaurant

These programs have given the students information about HSC expectations and post-school opportunities. Mr Hryce and myself have been busy visiting students on work experience and talking to their employers. Employers have been very impressed with students' work ethic and willingness to try new things. The work experience program benefits all students as they gain employability skills and experience in the work place. Students are working in a diverse range of careers. They are gaining experience in trades, retail, Office work and Solicitor work.

#### General information:

This semester students have continued completing their Resumes and applying online to various websites for casual work.

Students participated in 2 White Card courses run at the school.

#### TAX File Numbers:

Please note that as of December 2015 the school will no longer be issuing Tax file number applications. Students will need to go to their nearest Post Office and complete forms and attend an interview. This new process is faster and students will need to take relevant identification with them.

#### Some Employment contacts:

##### Retail

[Colescareers.com.au](http://Colescareers.com.au)

##### Apprenticeships in various careers

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

##### ATEL

Are you thinking of undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship in 2015?

Contact ATEL on 1300 784 787 or email them on [atel@atel.com.au](mailto:atel@atel.com.au)

##### Australian Training Company

Come in and discuss your future traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities in a variety of industries. The session will conclude with one-on-one interviews.

**Traineeship:** Tuesday 20 January 2015 9.30-12.00

**Apprenticeships:** Tuesday 20 January 2015 9.30-12.00

For more information and to register call Kenita on 97041500 or [ksu@austrg.com.au](mailto:ksu@austrg.com.au)

#### The Year that was:

This year we have had Guest speakers talking to the students about post-school options, apprenticeships and traineeships and gaining part-time work whilst still at school. This has enabled them to make educated choices concerning their HSC subject choices and University, TAFE, Private College and Employment options. Students from years 9-12 have completed their Resumes through workshops and applied online for holiday work and scholarship applications. Years 10-11 students have participated in White Card courses to assist them in work experience, work placement and apprenticeships. The support unit students have again developed excellent employment related skills which



strengthens their employability options. We have worked with Yr 7 maths classes developing plans for their choices for after school. This was to allow students to see the connection between what they were learning in the classroom and what they wanted to do in the future. The students, through class discussion, were able to make the connection between the level of maths required for certain career choices. This led to deeper discussions about how they were behaving and what they actually liked about their classes.

It's been a very busy year. I hope you all have a safe holiday and I look forward to working with you all again in 2015

## Support Report

### Ms Rudek

It has been another busy term for the Support faculty with many new and exciting things happening. Mrs Sivrioglu and I welcomed our Year6 students for our Orientation morning which was held on Friday 28.11.14. We met all our new students and parents and we look forward to work with the boys in 2015.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November the Get Ready Boys went to the Bondi Sculpture by the Sea exhibition. The exhibition was in its 18<sup>th</sup> year running with over a hundred artists exhibiting their work. The boys and staff thoroughly enjoyed walking and viewing the sculptures.

Mr Collins met with Carmel Silvestro at Granville Tafe as part of our post- school transition for year 12 students in order to gain entry into students desired courses for 2015.

We would like to congratulate our student Shane Lane for coming first in T VET Retail. Shane has also worked very well at Coles Merrylands and the manager has congratulated him on his fine efforts.

As the end of the year is approaching us with such rapid speed the Support faculty staff would like to wish all our families a wonderful and safe holiday. I look forward to welcome you all back in 2015.

## PDHPE Report

### Mr Abraham

#### 2015 Stage 5 elective (PASS)

In 2015 the *Physical Activity and Sports Studies* subject will be offered in two separate courses in which students may only choose ONE.

The **Exercise Science** course aims to prepare students for studying the PDHPE course in Year 11 and 12. It seeks to develop scientific knowledge and understanding of the concepts associated with exercise and sport. Students who are interested in pursuing careers in the health, science or education sector are encouraged to choose this course.

The **Sport and Recreation Studies** course aims to enhance students' abilities to participate in a wide range of sports, recreations and physical activities safely and with skill. Students who are skilled at sport and are interested in a career in the sports or fitness industry are encouraged to choose this course.

#### Crossroads

On 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November, year 10 students engaged in Crossroad Educational Program, the program occupy students in leadership activities, respectful relationships, acceptance, Sexual health, methods of contraception, the dangers of various drugs, drink spiking, risk taking behaviours and road safety.



#### Recess and Lunch time activities:

Students from Year 7 to year 11 have responded well in Basketball, indoor soccer and Oz-tag knockout competition. The competitions took a place during recess and lunch time and all students enjoyed competing.



#### Fun Run

This term saw our boys once again participate in the Adidas fun run. The boys managed to raise just over \$2000 for the school. On Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 40 students were rewarded with the opportunity to partake in the picturesque Bondi to Coogee walk. Our school captain Homam Sowadi led the race early closely followed by the veteran Greek Olympian Mr Nikiforos. On their tail were race organiser and favourite Mr Ghazal who seemed to run out of steam early.

Mr Chebib battered and bruised from his earlier marathon also struggled with the hot race conditions. The students enjoyed the stunning views and had a lot of questions along the way. So many in fact that Mr Marak and Ms Okell almost forgot about the race. In the end our school captain and "Fitness Freak" Homam Sowadi took out the race in just over 30 mins breaking the Granville Boys record by an exceptional 3 minutes. As an indication of his character, Homam waited at the finish line and cheered on his peers.

The finish line awaited us, a beautiful BBQ prepared by the best chef in town also known as "Chef Kehe". As usual the food was cooked to perfection.

After lunch the team went for a refreshing swim in the surf and participated in some iron man beach activities.

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All in all it was a great day enjoyed by both teachers and staff immensely.

Finally we wish our year 12 students all the best in their final HSC examination.



## TEACHING & LEARNING REPORT

### Ms Cullenward

Farewell from the Teaching & Learning Portfolio. I will be returning to the position of Head English Teacher in 2015. The peer coaching program is now well-established in the daily routines of teachers at GBHS and will continue to operate next year within the school framework to provide support to whole-school professional learning in each faculty. This term, the Peer Coach Leaders and their peers, have worked hard to ensure that the Reading To Learn program has become a habit in student learning. Teachers have met with their peer coach leader regularly and collaboratively planned, implemented and refined teaching and learning sequences to ensure that their students are meeting reading and writing outcomes in their classes. The teachers have spent a great deal of time actively listening to and asking each other the kinds of questions that produce deep knowledge and understanding of teaching strategies which best meet the learning needs of your son/s.

In week 9, each peer group, led by their peer group leader, presented to their fellow peers, a teaching and learning sequence they had learnt about at the school conference in July and subsequently implemented in their class. Each teacher explained how they facilitated the reading of a text for students and how the students then developed written

responses to that text. Work samples were provided for the group to discuss. This was an extremely valuable professional learning for all staff as they were able to deepen their understanding of teaching and learning from sharing and reflecting on all the ideas presented.



## HSIE Report

### Mr Mandarakas

Congratulations to students in the HSIE faculty who over the course of the year have worked so enthusiastically. Special mention must go to Homam Sawadi in year 11 for his outstanding result in Modern History, Ancient History and Business Studies and Legal Studies. Congratulations also to Shane lane, for his excellent result in Retail Services.

Congratulations to Fayzan Anwari, Ahmed Taleb and Abdul El-Khaled. Congratulations to Abdullah Saadeddine (first in Geography and History) and to Ismail Karahasanoglu (first in year 9 Commerce). Congratulations to all the Year 8 and 7 students who also achieved outstanding results.

This term students in Year 7 have investigated Ancient China and completed tasks on an emperor of their choosing, students in year 8 have investigated the reason for the growth in Transnational Corporations and their effect on society. Students in year 9 have investigated the Westernisation of Japan and the implication for Japan’s traditional rulers. Mr Heiler and 8G have researched how to enhance the school’s community garden project. Using their laptops the class researched sustainable gardening and chose a variety of vegetables that they would like to see planted. Students researched the cost and undertook an evaluation of the problems they would face and also the techniques they would use to overcome these problems. Students are now looking into sustainable irrigation options, like a water tank to maintain the garden.

This term teachers have had the opportunity, as part of their professional learning to report back to other members of staff about their experiences in implementing the Reading to Learn project. The project focusses on developing within our students the ability to read and comprehend a variety of texts in order to improve students’ reading comprehension skills and accuracy and develop written responses.









