

Bulletin

Issue 1 Term 4, 2015

Ms Libdy



Citizen of the Year

GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

14 Mary Street
Granville NSW 2142

Ph: 9637 0489
Fax: 9897 2421

www.gbhs.nsw.edu.au

“A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN”



Inside:

Principal's Report

Deputy Principal Reports:

Miss Scott

Mr Dixon

Ms Cullenward

Head Teachers Reports:

Ms Kotelawela – Science

Mr Mandarakas – HSIE

Miss Bazouni – English

Ms Ram – Maths

Mr Abraham – PDHPE

Mr Odei – TAS

Ms Libdy- CAPA

Ms Adderley – Learning Services

Careers Report:

Mrs Bailey-Marsman



FTC Robotics



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms O'Brien

How quickly this year has passed. We eagerly anticipate the arrival of the Higher School Certificate results. Year 12 2015 worked hard at school and I am sure they will be rewarded with excellent results.

Over the past two terms, a selected group of Year 10 students have participated in the "Who am I?" project with Shayk Wesam Charkawi. The Shayk has taken students to a number of recreational venues around Sydney and conducted a series of workshops with them aimed at assisting the students explore their identity. To build resilience and strengthen their character, students have workshopped with experts from many fields so that they are able to reflect upon their actions and think about their future possibilities. The program has had a very positive impact on the students.

This term our Year 8 students have been engaged in an intensive consultation with the teachers in the HSIE faculty about the implementation of the new syllabus for Geography. Students have been led by Ms Mayes and they have researched how their fellow students like to learn and given advice to their teachers about the content of the teaching programs and the ways in which they would like to further develop these programs. Such consultations have engaged the students in important critical thinking about school and learning and their insights, findings and suggestions have been greatly appreciated by the teachers. I look forward to the implementation of these programs in 2016.

In 2016 the teachers and the students will again engage in the collaborative development of Learning Projects. In Term 4 a number of successful projects have engaged the students in problem solving to meet the outcomes of the syllabuses. I have been impressed with the work that the students in Stage 4 Mathematics have completed on the Garden Design Projects and the work completed again by Year 8 on the exploration of the history of the Vikings. Stage 5 students have been engaged in a STEM project (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) which has seen them develop a means to move objects. The students in the robotics programs have met challenges by designing robots. As well there has been the planting of the vertical garden, the design and construction of Badminton tables and the launch of our student newspaper, "The Spartan". All this work has been highly engaging for students and has developed their capacity to problem-solve and think critically about the world around them.

In term 4 the students have completed their examinations and teachers have written their reports. Year 7 & 8 have been to camp and the Year 6 into 7 Transition and Orientation Day has run smoothly. We have celebrated the success of students at Presentation Day. Now it is time to take a well-earned rest!

I wish you a happy and safe holiday. Rest and enjoy and thank you to the members of our whole school community for a great year.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Miss Scott

Term 4 has been as busy as ever at Granville Boys High School. The energy and enthusiasm of the staff and students at this school is second to none!

This term I had the privilege of taking 80 Year 7 and 8 boys to the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens. What a brilliant three days we had! Perfect weather meant that we could really enjoy all that camp had to offer. We participated in team challenge; a high ropes course where you are harnessed together in a group of four. This activity really strengthened the boy's team work ability. We all completely enjoyed 'Lost Island', the mud run challenge. This obstacle course in waist deep mud was the perfect way to cool down on a hot day and to give some payback to some of the boys (teachers had the buckets of extra mud for throwing!). We also did the giant slide and leap of faith. These activities challenged boy's fear of heights and developed trust in one and other and you had to rely on those below to belay you down safely. We had a half day at Jimmy's Beach swimming and snorkeling. We even had a few dolphins come by to visit. We had a beach BBQ that night which was the perfect way to end our beach day. Camp was such a positive experience for all those involved. For the teachers, it provided us with the opportunity to get to know our students better and for students, camp challenged them to develop skills of team work, leadership and independence and gave students the opportunity to meet with and develop relationships with students outside their friendship circle.

I would like to personally thank the teachers that came with us to camp. Mr Chebib, Mr Mandarakas, Ms Dilek and Mr Kehe. It is a big ask to expect teachers to leave their families and go away mid-week. The attending students and I are very grateful to the attending teachers and their families. Thank you for your energy, enthusiasm and ability to function on very little sleep!

I am already looking forward to next years camp.

MTC work solutions has been working with a group of Year 8 boys this term in the Youth Frontiers mentoring program. This program was implemented to support boys to develop and implement a community service project into the school. Mohammed El Hallak, Abdul Zreika, Khaled El Fata, Naim Bouhamed, Mahdy Zaineddine, Hussien El Saddik and Abdul Rahmin Zalfa have been meeting weekly with their mentor Fets to develop an action plan to improve our chicken coop and our ability to grow our own produce. I have been very impressed with the boys commitment to the program and would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them for their efforts.

Orientation Day was on Thursday December 3rd. It was so nice to meet our incoming students for next year. Students participated in a number of taster lessons

including English, Drama, Science, TAS, and Visual Art. Our parents also had the opportunity to participate in Maths and Science taster lessons with Ms Bolbol and My Shouk. These parent taster lessons helped to give mums and dads insight into what students might learn about in a year 7 classroom and also helped parents to see what sort of assistance they can offer to support their child's learning. Thank you to Ms Bolbol, Mr Shouk, Ms Havea, Ms Juchau, Mr Jones, Mr Keski Nummi and Ms Guzman for running taster lessons on the day. Thank you to Mr Ghazal (Year 7 Adviser 2016), Mr Nikiforous and to all of the office staff for your support in organising this super busy day. We look forward to meeting these students and parent again next year.

This term's Deputy Principal Rewards Excursion is to Wet'n'Wild. To be nominated to attend this excursion students had to demonstrate positive behaviour, positive attendance and demonstrated community spirit. Congratulations to all boys nominated to attend. It is going to be a great day and I am really looking forward to it.

Over the past semester our students, teachers and groups of parents have been working collaboratively with the PBIS team to develop a reward system to be implemented in 2016. Ms Mayes, our HT Teaching & Learning has supported this process and our student research team has been actively surveying students to find out what they want. Next year, the new rewards system will be trialled and events like the Deputy Principals excursion will be tied to the system making it easier to recognise and reward those students who are consistently working to their best of their ability and behaving appropriately.

This term brings to an end my first year at Granville Boys High School. It has been a huge year and I have loved the learning, laughter and opportunities that have come with being Deputy Principal at this great school. I look forward to 2016 and continuing to work with all the boys and their families of this community. It is a very special place.

Have a happy and safe holidays everyone. See you back at school bright and refreshed in 2016.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Dixon

Term 4 is always busy and this year is no exception. The Arabic band have been busy with performance at Auburn Girls High School, where they performed for the white ribbon day ceremony.

Miss Scott, Miss Kim and myself recently visited Parramatta Marist School to look at innovative class room teaching practices including Project based learning and Open class rooms. These practices are not only engaging, but useful in preparing students for the skills needed as 21st century learners. We are working on implementing these practices at GBHS over the next few years.

The Concert Band have just returned from a successful tour of the Gold Coast. During this tour they performed, amongst other performances, at our Sister school, Woodridge State High. Not only did the students perform well, they were at all times well-behaved and represented our school with distinction. Woodridge High have also indicated they will be bringing 60 students to our school in 2016 to perform at Granville Boys High School. It's a great partnership we have with our sister school. They aim to visit during next year's Eid celebrations.

Term 4 signals the time for Year 11 students have begun year 12 work. All assessments now count towards a Higher School Certificate. The upcoming break will be the last lengthy holidays before the Higher School Certificate. Students should take some time away from their books. I recommend spending the 2 weeks up until the New Year relaxing, then spending 4 hours each weekday working on upcoming assessment tasks, revising class notes, completing readings etc. Students will still having the weekends and afternoons off, but give themselves a great head start leading into their last year of school. Year 12 students should seek assistance from their class room teachers in order to clarify their areas of study.

I've taken over year 9 since Mr Ahmed has returned to Liverpool Boys High School. I look forward to working with the students, teachers and parents of this year group.

Have a great break.



MATH REPORT

Ms Ram

As term 4 approaches an end, many things are happening simultaneously. Teachers are finishing off curriculum content for this year as well as planning for 2016. New or revised programs are being written to cater for the needs of students expected in the various classes in 2016. In weeks 8 and 9, Year 8 students sat for a placement test in Mathematics. Students' performance in this test will be used to determine their year 9 classes for next year. There will be two Stage 5.3 Maths classes and for the first time, we will be trialling out a mixed Stage 5.2 / 5.1. This means that students would be able to try out challenging work in the same class rather than having to move to a different class. The placement test is conducted each year. For students who aspire to do Mathematics Stage 5.3 in years 9 and 10, they need to show strong skills in Algebra and Problem solving.

Students who wish to do Medicine, Engineering, Aviation, etc at University later, will need to demonstrate adequate skills to be in the Stage 5.3 classes. This requires ongoing perseverance and engagement in learning, the ability to work independently and striving for excellence.

The work pressure has somewhat eased with the year 12's finishing their first HSC assessment task. This task was well attempted with quality marks achieved by most students. I have spent the last few weeks reading senior student reports and I am impressed with the caliber of some of our students. They continued to apply themselves with diligence and strive for excellence, and are to be congratulated for their hard work and success at school. Parents should be proud of their son's achievements and I would like to thank them for their continued support.

This year in August, a group of students participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition which is a prestigious National competition in which our boys usually perform quite well. Three students achieved distinctions, nine achieved credits, and others achieved either proficiency or participation certificates. Those students who missed out this year would get another opportunity to participate in the AMC in 2016. Keep an eye out for the registration notices to go up.

A very important part of the back to school preparation is purchasing stationery and other equipment before the school begins. Parents must take advantage of the reduced prices during sales and stock up on their son's stationery needs. Maths faculty requires every student to have the following equipment on their first day of school in the 2016 school year.

The Maths faculty wishes all students an exciting and enjoyable holiday.

TAS REPORT

Mr Odei

It is that time of the year where we recap all that has transpired in the Technological and Applied Studies faculty. The faculty staff and I agree that this academic year has been stimulating, challenging as well as preparing us for exciting times ahead at Granville Boys High School.

The professional learning at Granville Boys took off with the implementation of numeracy across the whole school. The TAS staff has embraced numeracy and have integrated numeracy in all assessment tasks and activities. The understanding of our learning reflected how we have modified our teaching practice to ensure it involved activities that are rich, challenging and engaging. Staff from the school community witnessed some of the integrated learning tasks that had taken place in TAS at the annual staff conference. Mr Benic presented to the whole school staff how he used music as a “hook” to engage his students by designing a speaker boom box with his Timber class.

In Term 4, we have continued with supporting and working collaboratively with other faculties to implement project learning tasks themed around numeracy. Some of the projects that have already been completed include the vertical garden initiative, ping pong tables and the shark tank project. Our robotics program with Year 7 and 9 students continue to provide extra-curricular activities to cater for the learning needs of our students. On behalf of the students and the TAS staff, I would like to thank Ms Rodriguez for working tirelessly to ensure our students benefit from the robotics program.

This year our students have worked extremely well and this has reflected in the successful completion of multiple projects from Year 7 classes right through to our HSC classes.

Finally, I would like to thank the TAS team for their hard work this year. They have demonstrated true professionalism and commitment to our students. On a sad note, however, we say goodbye and good luck to Mr Lamprill and Ms Rodriguez. Ms Rodriguez has been pivotal in her many roles at this school. She has indeed brought a lot of honour to the TAS faculty through her hard work and dedication. Her role in the setup of Pulse Café is one of many memories she takes with her. We wish Ms Rodriguez the very best in her new school.

See you all in the New Year!

Enjoy your break!



SCIENCE REPORT

Ms Kotelawela



The Science Headquarters

Welcome to another great year of Science here at Granville Boys High School.

This year promises to be BIGGER and better than last year. Watch out GUYS!!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new 2015 students and their families.

This year we have a record breaking number of students in year 7 with another selective class and an Enrichment class.

I would like to welcome Mrs Bolbol to the Science faculty this year and Mrs Ioannidis who has come back to work part time. The other members of the Science Faculty are Mr. Hathaway and Miss Vitetta. Our dedicated Science staff, together with our supportive parents are continually working together in assisting the boys in achieving their potential. The Science faculty

requests that parents/carers help to optimise their child's learning opportunities by ensuring that students have all necessary equipment in class.

Parents are also encouraged to support their sons by ensuring homework is completed every night. Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

The Science faculty would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 2014 Year 12 HSC students on their great performance. We wish all our students well in their future.

Year 7:

Year 7 students are enjoying a series of investigations planned under the topic "Classification and Habitats." They visited the Taronga Zoo as part of the Orientation Program and their Classification Topic. Students had a wonderful day at the zoo and completed a Classification workbook as part of their assessment requirement. Two classes were able to experience hands on classification workshop where they were able to touch reptiles and possums. The skills that students have developed in doing these investigations are helping them to develop their capacity in planning and carrying out first hand investigations and making dichotomous keys in order to classify living things.



Year 8:

This term, the year 8 students were actively engaged in carrying out a series of first-hand investigations. They performed investigations to find out how the height of the bounce of a tennis ball varies with the type of surface on which the ball is bounced, the reaction time of individuals and if the thickness of the bread affects the time it takes to toast, just to mention a few.

Year 9

The students are learning about electricity, light, sound and waves. They have carried out a series of experiments to demonstrate series and parallel electric circuits as well as transverse and longitudinal waves using a slinky. Their assessment task includes a practical component on electricity and a quiz.

Year 10

This term, Year 10 students are working on an in class assessment task and are also extending their knowledge of the Periodic Table and learning to write formulae, balanced equations and conducting experiments on chemical reactions.

Year 11

On Wednesday 4th of March accompanied by Miss Vitetta and Mrs Bolbol, Year 11 Biology and Senior Science students went to the Bicentennial Park in Sydney Olympic Park to investigate a local ecosystem. It was a Field Study Assessment Task that meets the Board of Studies course requirements.

The students eagerly participated in numerous activities that were set up and co-ordinated by the service team at Sydney Olympic Park. They worked in groups and studied the adaptations of mangroves to its habitat and the distribution and abundance of plant and animal species in a salt marsh ecosystem. It was a great success and the students thoroughly enjoyed applying the skills they had learnt in class, to a practical situation.

Year 12

On Monday 9th Of March accompanied by Mrs. Bolbol, Year 12 physics and chemistry students went on an excursion to ANSTO to participate in activities enhancing their understanding of Nuclear Science and Technology.

The Biology and Senior Science students attended a workshop at the UNSW Museum of Diseases on Wednesday 25th February. The boys got an opportunity to see diseased preserved body parts and prosthetics. They were accompanied by Mrs. Kotelawela and Miss Vitetta.

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

PDHPE Report

Mr Abraham

This semester has been very busy in the PDHPE Faculty with all our staff working on projects to engage the students. The students got to experience many different things this semester by participating in activities such as the Fun Run, V8 Supercars, Crossroads and many different sporting competitions. The PDHPE staff have worked well all year and their hard work continued this semester by consistently delivering fun and engaging lessons for all students.

Fun Run

Earlier this term staff and students participated in the annual school fun run. This year the students worked hard to raise just over \$4500 which will go towards funding new jerseys for our sporting teams. The fun run commenced at Bondi Beach and ended at Coogee Beach. Students ran, walked and jogged along the coastal walk and admired the beautiful view as they completed the 4.4km trek. Upon completion the students enjoyed a fantastic day of sun, sand and waves. Congratulations to Mr Nikiforos, Jacob Alameddine, Ahmed Elhage, Nasser Dib and Malek Shahrouk for completing the run in under 30 minutes. The day was enjoyed by all and on behalf of Granville Boys HS we'd like to thank all those involved in participating in the fun run. Also a huge thank you to the parents and the community for generously sponsoring the students for this good cause.

This semester saw some veterans and rookies collaborate to produce the goods. Mr Fabricato and Mr Conca were new recruits this semester and they both didn't skip a beat. Their fresh ideas and positive attitude rubbed off on all the staff and their input is greatly appreciated. Both staff showed some exceptional characteristics and we are very lucky to have them. Mr Chebib and Mr Wynne have now become seasoned veterans and their leadership and guidance within the faculty allowed for a positive and successful semester. Mr Abraham and Mr Ghazal both had the opportunity to lead the faculty this semester. The transition between the two staff members was seamless and the experience gained by Mr Ghazal was invaluable. A massive thank you to all the PDHPE staff for making 2015 a successful and enjoyable year.

Farewell Mr Rutherford:

Its with mixed emotions that we farewell one of the most hard working teachers at our school. Mr Rutherford has accepted a position at another school and will move on in 2016. Whilst we are very happy for him to further develop his career we are extremely sad to lose such a vital member of the school community. Mr Rutherford has been at Granville Boys for over 7 years and has always put the students needs first. Those who were lucky enough to be taught by Mr Rutherford will miss

his enjoyable and engaging lessons. Two things were guaranteed in Mr Rutherfords class, firstly you'd have fun and secondly you'd learn. As a colleague he was always there to help and will give up his own time to assist any staff or students that needed help.

When asked what he'd miss about Mr Rutherford's class, one student replied "His classes are just different, you can tell he put so much work into organising the lesson". Another student said "I'll miss his jokes, even though sometimes they weren't that funny". That's a credit to his character, he'd always be up for a laugh and would never take himself too seriously. On behalf of Granville Boys HS we'd like to thank Mr Rutherford for all his hard work, he will be sorely missed.

Thank you to all the PDHPE staff for a wonderful and productive 2015. A particular thanks to all the students who made 2015 a memorable year. We'd like to wish everyone a happy and safe holidays and we look forward to seeing you again in 2016

ENGLISH Report

Miss Bazouni

As 2015 comes to an end, we celebrate another successful year in the English faculty.

After spending the last few weeks reviewing reports and looking at examination results, I am quite pleased to see that students have remained motivated and have endeavored to achieve their best. I congratulate all the students for their hard work and look forward to working with them in the New Year.

Year 7

Year 7 students undertook a study of Shakespeare, examining both the original 'Twelfth Night' and the modern adaptation, Andy Fickman's film 'She's the Man'. The unit focused on the changing roles of women and the impact of context. For many of our Year 7 students, this term has opened a new doorway to learning with multiple cross-curricular projects being run. Delving into topics that ranged from 'Outer Space' to 'Identity Projects', these innovative learning opportunities enabled students to see connections between subject areas and develop their critical thinking skills. Year 7 Selective students completed a unit called 'The Dreaming Tracks'. This unit required students to reflect on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage. Students also composed their own dreaming track journal, where they were encouraged to reflect upon their own cultural heritage.

Year 8

Year 8 students wrapped up the semester by completing a novel study focusing on universal ideas and values. Students read 'Holes' by Louis Sachar, 'Once' by

Morris Gleitzman and 'Boy' by Roald Dahl. Students also explored the power of persuasive writing in the final unit for the year, 'In my Opinion'. Students were introduced to persuasive writing and were introduced to AFOREST. The course focused on persuasive language and it enriched students with the skills required to produce their own persuasive essay. Year 8 Selective students explored the history, genre and performance elements of silent film, culminating in developing a submission for the 'International Youth Silent Film Festival'. Students also completed a dramatic study of Shakespeare's 'King Lear', where they learnt how performance and stagecraft can affect meaning and influence audience response.

Year 9

For Year 9 students, Term 4 has been all about masculinity and revenge. Students completed a unit on poetry, focusing on the concept of masculinity. This unit required the students to devise a poem addressing themes of masculinity and to write a rationale explaining their poetic choices. Students also completed a dramatic study of Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' and the film 'The Lion King', where they learnt how meaning in texts is transformed over time.

Year 10

Whilst we often watch films purely for entertainment, Year 10 has delved further into the world of cinema examining the notions of truth and perspective. Students closely examined the film 'Hurricane' and were asked to form their own opinion on whether this man was innocent or guilty of a triple murder charge. Students also studied the power of protest. They looked at an array of protests, analyzing why these protests took place and what the outcomes of them were. After completing their yearly examinations, Year 10 completed a quick introduction into dystopia. The students learnt about how dystopia is a reaction to control and surveillance. The students then used this background knowledge to guide their understanding of the new James Bond movie, 'Spectre'. The students enjoyed a fantastic day in the city seeing the movie and relating their learning to contemporary fiction.

Year 11

The transition for our Year 11 students from their Preliminary HSC into their final year of secondary education is well underway. Advanced students are currently completing their first unit, Module B: Critical Study of Texts, where they are focusing on Yeats, a profound Irish poet. Standard students are also just completing their first HSC unit, Module C: Exploring Transitions, closely examining the prose fiction text 'The Story of Tom Brennan' by JC Burke. Over the Summer holidays students should ask their teachers which texts they will be completing in Term 1, 2016 and endeavor to complete the readings before school begins.

Year 12

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.

Sweatshop & Russ the Story Bus

Year 7 Selective students were excited to complete a workshop run by guest artist Michael Mohammed Ahmad. Michael is a published author, editor, actor and director of SWEATSHOP, a Western Sydney Literacy Movement. Michael is dedicated to empowering marginalised communities through literacy and critical thinking and the students thoroughly enjoyed the workshop.

After the workshop, students were given the opportunity to visit 'Russ the Story Bus' who came to GBHS. Presented by Sydney Writers' Festival, Russ the Story Bus is not an ordinary bus, with its exterior covered in artwork by a leading children's book illustrator and its interior designed by an award-winning architect firm, it's actually pretty fancy. Russ the Story Bus is a creative space where children can browse a library full of the latest children's books. Our students were most ecstatic to find out that they could choose any book they liked and take it home for free.

Poet-West Words

Poetry is now being taken to a new level at Granville Boys' High School. Thanks to the people from West Words, the top English students of year 8 and 9 have had the opportunity to work with the internationally renowned poet Mark Tredennick. Mark has one won both the Montreal International Poetry Prize and the Cardiff International Poetry Prize and is often recognized all over the world. Students have worked with Mark to explore poems from the canon and more modern classics, before they were taken through processes to build and refine their own writing.
Newspaper- News flash !!

Granville Boys' High School now has a school newspaper. Friday the 4th of December marked the first delivery where students were seen enthusiastically perusing the writing of their peers. From Viking invasions to peace artists, from technology reports to futures in less than 50 words, even advice from our dear old Uncle Cuz. Students worked diligently before school and in roll call to create a publication by the students for the students, giving them a voice to celebrate the achievements across the school while keeping readers entertained. Look out for next year's publication to increase in both frequency and circulation. Congratulations to Mr. Egan, Mr. Jones and the newspaper team on the production of an amazing first edition which left many staff and students eagerly awaiting the release of the next edition.

I would like to thank the English and LOTE staff for their support, commitment and fervor to student learning. I look forward to working closely with the

staff, students and parents of Granville Boys High School in the upcoming year.

On behalf of the English faculty I would like to thank parents for their continued support throughout the year, and would also like to wish all our families a wonderful and safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you in 2016.

Sweatshop & Russ the Story Bus



Year 7 Selective students were excited to complete a workshop run by guest artist Michael Mohammed Ahmad. Michael is a published author, editor, actor and director of SWEATSHOP, a Western Sydney Literacy Movement. Michael is dedicated to empowering marginalised communities through literacy and critical thinking and the students thoroughly enjoyed the workshop.

After the workshop, students were given the opportunity to visit 'Russ the Story Bus' who came to GBHS. Presented by Sydney Writers' Festival, Russ the Story Bus is not an ordinary bus, with its exterior covered in artwork by a leading children's book illustrator and its interior designed by an award-winning architect firm, it's actually pretty fancy. Russ the Story Bus is a creative space where children can browse a library full of the latest children's books. Our students were most ecstatic to find out that they could choose any book they liked and take it home for free.



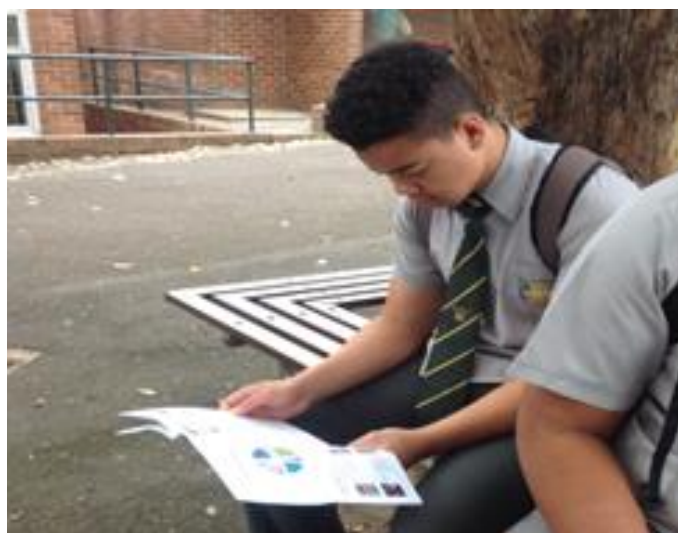
Poet-West Words

Poetry is now being taken to a new level at Granville Boys' High School. Thanks to the people from West Words, the top English students of year 8 and 9 have had the opportunity to work with the internationally renowned poet Mark Tredennick. Mark has one won both the Montreal International Poetry Prize and the Cardiff International Poetry Prize and is often recognized all over the world. Students have worked with Mark to explore poems from the canon and more modern classics, before they were taken through processes to build and refine their own writing.

Newspaper- News flash !!



Granville Boys' High School now has a school newspaper. Friday the 4th of December marked the first delivery where students were seen enthusiastically perusing the writing of their peers. From Viking invasions to peace artists, from technology reports to futures in less than 50 words, even advice from our dear old Uncle Cuz. Students worked diligently before school and in roll call to create a publication by the students for the students, giving them a voice to celebrate the achievements across the school while keeping readers entertained. Look out for next year's publication to increase in both frequency and circulation. Congratulations to Mr. Egan, Mr. Jones and the newspaper team on the production of an amazing first edition which left many staff and students eagerly awaiting the release of the next edition.



I would like to thank the English and LOTE staff for their support, commitment and fervor to student learning. I look forward to working closely with the staff, students and parents of Granville Boys High School in the upcoming year.

On behalf of the English faculty I would like to thank parents for their continued support throughout the year, and would also like to wish all our families a wonderful and safe holiday and we look forward to seeing you in 2016.

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.

This year we had 47 students complete the Premiers Reading Challenge, we had seven students receive Gold awards and two receive platinum rewards. Each year we have more and more students completing the Premiers Reading Challenge, I am very proud of the students who are engaging in this literacy activity and their improvement is being reflected in their classroom work. 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>

They might like to register for the Summer Reading Challenge, you can register on the following link. <http://summerreadingchallenge.scholastic.com.au/> 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 Widdison, works between English and the Learning and Support Faculty, has done a fantastic effort in his first year as a Learning Support Teacher, he has also managed homework club in collaboration with Ms Love. 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 another fantastic 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.

Ms Brenner (Transition Officer) commenced with us this year and has been doing a fantastic job supporting students who want to move into the workforce.

Ms Holloway and Ms Sivrioglu (Library 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 kept everything running.

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
Melinda Adderley



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.

David Gatluak and Abdel Abbas were 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 was on the 28th and 29th of November.

The Arabic band has been going strong, Ahmad Hablos their tutor comes in every Wednesday to rehearse with the boys. They have performed on several occasions at Auburn Girls High School. Ahmad has been working tirelessly with the band and the Music teachers to help improve the already existing talent that we already have at the school.

Our Visual Arts Department has been doing great work with the boys. Some Year 8 classes were involved in an integrated project. MS Donnelly worked with her Year 8 HSIE and Visual Arts classes on a Unit of work (Vikings and Horrible Histories) to create a series of short films to be used as a fun and interesting learning resource. They also made helmets and other film props to integrate into their short film. This was extremely successful and Ms Donnelly worked tirelessly to ensure the project was a success.

Ms Guzman worked with 7 Selective and English on another integrated project called 'The Dreaming Track' which looked into students personal journeys. They created masks based on their cultural identity. The project was quiet a success and the students created some very interesting masks.

Visual Arts students also attended sculptures by the Sea at Bondi. They had a fantastic time as they got to see the different forms Art can take.

Year 12 Visual Arts students were also successful in completing their Major Art works. The final products were pleasing.

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 2016. 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.

On Friday the 13th of November I took 20 Year 11 students to Cabramatta High School for their annual Peace day and to listen to the Artist George Gittoes who was the recipient of the 2015 Sydney Peace Prize.

Together for Humanity has been a great success this year. We have had many great sessions at school. Together for Humanity 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.

I have also had the pleasure of coordinating and taking Year 9 and Year 8 students to the University of New South Wales. This is run by the ASPIRE team. ASPIRE is an innovative partnership between Granville Boys and UNSW. The program works to build awareness about higher education and to encourage them to think more broadly about their future. The students were able to have a glimpse into university life. A fun and interesting day was had by all the students.

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.

Support Report Mr Collins

It has been a busy year in the Support Unit. We have added a fourth class this year, with the Support A Class. They have been busy participating in a number of projects around the school, including the Hanging Garden Project with Mrs Adderley. Through the Community Access Program have also been getting out and about to the movies, Homebush Aquatic Centre and the Sydney Harbour Bridge Walk with Ms Juszko.

Mrs Sivrioglu and Ms Knappick have been busy travelling to schools and meeting new students for 2016. They have also hosted a transition morning where they met with parents and students and spoke to them about how our unit operates. Mahamed Chaker has been busy working on the school newspaper, The Spartan. Mamoud Jalloh has been representing the school at soccer and received a special award for his efforts. Both of these boys were selected attend the V8 Supercar excursion due to their positive attitude at school.

Mrs Rudek has been away this term and Mrs Soliman has stepped in to replace her. Both Mrs Soliman and the boys have enjoyed participating in the Get Ready

Program, where they have travelled far and wide to variety of places, including the University of NSW, for the Solar Car Challenge, Sculpture By The Sea and Homebush Aquatic Centre. They have enjoyed constructing Solar Cars, as part of an exploration of energy in their Science class. We would like to thank Mrs Soliman for her assistance this term. We also look forward to seeing Mrs Rudek back in 2016.

This year the Senior Support class has had a record number of Year 12 graduates, with seven students completing their HSC Life Skills course. The remaining students from Year 10 and 11 have been busy exploring the topic of horticulture in Science this term and have been putting what they have learnt in class into practice within the school garden, cultivating a number of vegetables and herbs. We wish all students and staff, who work with our faculty, a very safe and happy holiday.



Careers Report

Mrs Bailey-Marsman

Career and Transition Team

2015 has been a very interesting year for everyone. All years have been busy completing various activities and have experienced success in varying areas.

Year 12

Parramatta Rotary Youth Vocational Awards

We have had four year 12 students recognised by Parramatta Rotary for their excellent efforts in their VET Subjects. Congratulations to Hadi Naboulsi – Construction; Mohammad El-Moubayed – Information Digital Technology; Mahmoud Dib – Hospitality and Ahmed Alameddine – Retail Services.



Mohammad and Hadi receive their Awards

Year 12 students who applied for the School Recommendation Scheme through UAC will now be receiving congratulatory emails about early offer places. Please read the attachments and following directions given. If you have any problems please contact the Career Adviser.

TAFE applications for 2016 are now open. Please visit the NSW TAFE website and attend any compulsory information enrolment dates.

Students have participated in the following workshops this year:

White Card Course

We have had a large number of students from year 9 through to year 12 attain their White Card. This is assisting students in their educational pathways and part-time work.

VET Students and White Card Students

Unique Student Identifier numbers have been created for these students. Please don't lose those numbers as you will need them for applying to other courses in the future.

Resumes and Job applications online

Students have been creating, updating and completing their Resumes. They have then applied online or visited workplaces for part-time work.

Year 10

Students have completed All My Own Work and the School to Work Survey.

They have completed the Work Experience Program. They have selected their subjects for their Higher School Certificate.

Some students had applied for pre-apprenticeship programs and were successful in gaining a position in these programs run by different employment agencies. These are for post-school pathways and have been a successful pathway into full-time work.

Mini BIG Idea Career Expo

Granville Boys hosted its first Career Expo in Term 3. Students from year 7 to year 12 were invited to attend. This Expo allowed students to speak to people in the fields that interested them. They were also able to collect relevant information so that they could make informed decisions about career decisions, subject selection decisions and post-school decisions. The Mini BIG Idea Career Expo is now a regular event on the School Calendar. We look forward to seeing everyone involved next year.

The Career and Transition Team have enjoyed working with all students this year and we look forward to working further with you in the new year.



