

Term 1 Week 6, 2024



Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus Newsletter





Anna Girginis, Principal



Principal's Report



School Development Days

Staff attended two professional learning days at the beginning of the year before preparing for the arrival of our students. During the sessions, we spent time discussing explicit teaching practices and delved deeply into our 2023 HSC results analysis. It is great work with a staff who always want to improve their practice to ensure the most successful outcomes for all our students.

Welcome to Year11

Last week, we welcomed our new Year 11 cohort (395 students) to our school. They have settled very quickly into senior school life and have been working with their teachers and student advisors to make this important transition in their stage 6 education journey a smooth one.

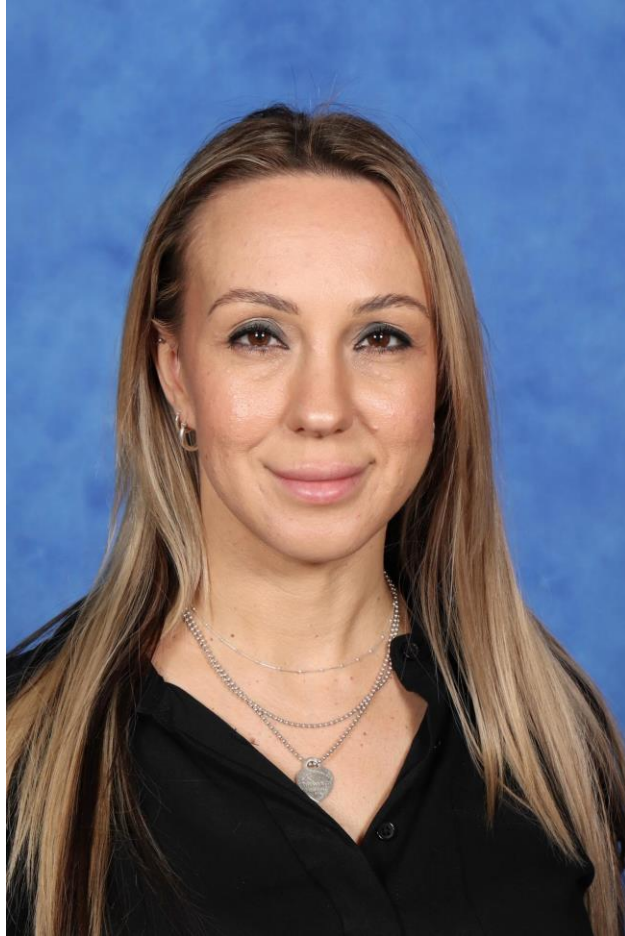
Meet the Teacher

It was great to see so many parents, students and caregivers at our 'Meet the Teacher' afternoon. The afternoon was a fantastic success. Feedback received was positive, many grateful for the warm welcome to our school and the opportunity to meet teachers and executives. Thank you to all staff and students for representing GRC Oatley Senior Campus in such a positive and professional manner. A special thank you to Mrs Jamieson, our VET staff and our hospitality students for the magnificent catering. The food was definitely a topic of conversation on the night. Our school is very fortunate to have such dedicated people contributing to its success.

Also new to the school are a number of teachers and support staff. We have welcomed:

- English Teacher – Dimitra Roussis
- HSIE Teacher – Antoni Petrakis





2023 HSC Results

Congratulations to our outgoing Year 12's. They worked extremely hard to ensure that they achieved their HSC credential. There is an expectation that we will do well, that our students will be stretched and challenged and that our teachers will do their very best and more to assist students in realising their potential.

Highlights from the 2023 HSC included:

- Dux of Year 12 – Sabrina Xinting JIN ATAR 99.15Photo Sabrina
- Top Achievers List:

Christopher Luu Information and Digital Technology

Annamaria Psaltis Modern Greek Beginners

Claire Webber Entertainment Industry

- 42 students were named on the HSC Distinguished Achievers list.
- Top 2 bands (Bands 5 and 6) – 359 bands awarded.







HSC Nominations for HSC Major Works

It is with great pleasure I can announce, several of our Year 12 students, who recently completed their HSC, have been notified by NESA that their major projects were nominated and / or selected for inclusion as a part of the HSC Showcases - ArtExpress, OnSTAGE, Encore and CALLBACK.

ArtExpress is an annual series of exhibitions of exemplary artworks created by New South Wales Visual Arts students for the Higher School Certificate Examination.

- Felicia Celine Calma Selection in ARTEXPRESS

OnSTAGE will feature a selection of exemplary group and individual projects from 2023 Higher School Certificate Drama students including performances, video drama, and a moved reading of a script.

- Mikayla Treharne Nomination for Individual Performance

Callback

A showcase of exemplary works from the 2023 HSC Dance examinations.

- Latu Suli Nomination for Music Performance

Encore recognises the exceptional major works created by HSC Music Students, showcasing performances and compositions selected from the previous year's HSC exams.

- Marissa Bertuccio Nomination for Core and Major Study Performance

These HSC students and their extremely proud teachers are to be congratulated as these works have been deemed to be of the highest standard across all students in NSW.







Lugarno Lions Youth of the Year

Congratulations to our school captain, Lofitu Finau who participated in the Lyons Youth of the Year competition.

The Lions Youth of the Year program has a proud history in encouraging and fostering leadership skills in Australian students approaching the end of their high school years. By emphasising qualities like contribution to the community and school, public speaking, academic skills, sporting and cultural involvement, Youth of the Year aims to bring forth the next generation of outstanding young Australians.



Network Awards Ceremony

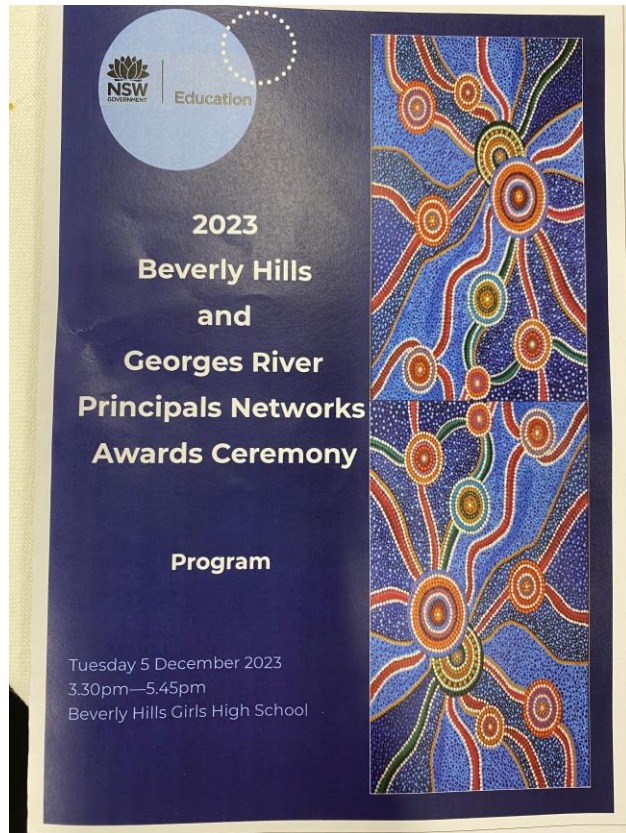
I had the pleasure of attending the 2023 Beverly Hills and Georges River Principals Network Awards Ceremony. It is with great pleasure that I announce to our school community that three GRC Oatley members of staff received awards for their hard work, commitment and service to our school. They have had a positive impact on staff and students and contributed to the educational landscape of our school.

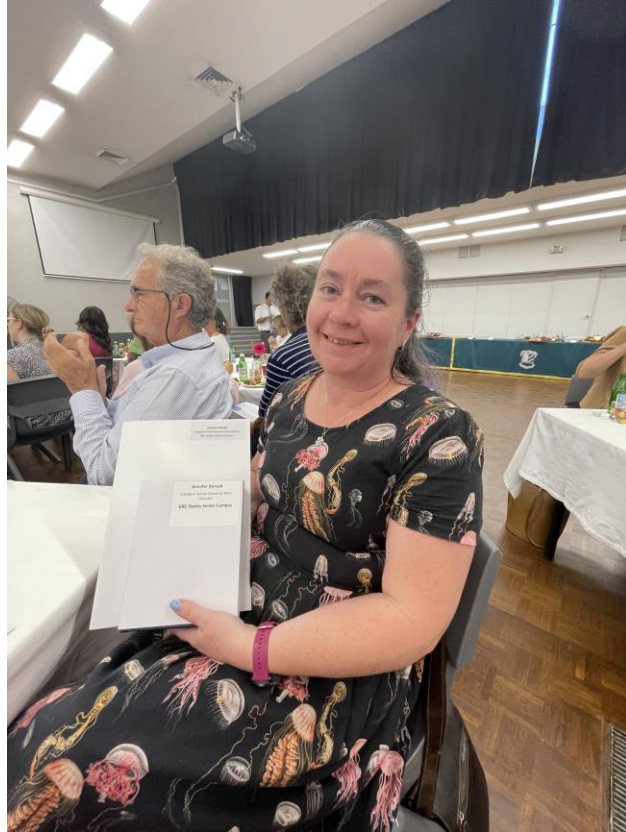
Congratulations to:

- Jennifer Donald – Head Teacher TAS

- Petrina Howe – School Administration Officer
- Sue Nettleton – School Administration Officer







“Say No To Domestic Violence” Community Breakfast

We opened our doors to our local community to show our commitment to the “Say No To Domestic Violence” Campaign. We support a vision of a nation that respects women, in which every woman lives in safety, free from all forms of abuse.

We were honoured to have Ms Simone O’Brien as our guest speaker. Simone O’Brien is a domestic violence survivor, speaker, strong advocate for women against violence, and mother of three beautiful children. Her journey started in 2012 when she suffered a horrific attack at the hands of a perpetrator who would not take “no” for an answer. She shared her story of courage and strength, to raise awareness on the red flags related to domestic violence and prevent these incidences from happening again. Using her personal story of determination, resilience, courage and strength, Simone aims to champion non-violence against women and children. Together, let’s stop domestic violence.







Beautification of the Learning Environment

Our 2023 renovations are close to completion. Student voice has played a crucial role in driving decisions about the beautification of learning spaces and gardens at GRC Oatley. Incorporating student input into the design and maintenance of these spaces has not only enhanced the physical environment but also fostered a sense of ownership and well-being among students.







GRC Oatley Mobile Phone Policy

The Mobile Phone Policy is now in effect.

Department of Education Policy

This policy is being implemented to increase focus and learning in classrooms, remove distractions and promote positive social interactions. The implementation of this policy is a requirement under the *Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools* Policy.

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus Mobile Phone Management Plan

The NSW Government has announced restrictions on the use of mobile phones in NSW high schools beginning in Term 4, 2023.

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus has made changes to the way mobile phones are accessed by students during the school day. The new system is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions and to also promote positive social interaction, while reducing the potential for online bullying.

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus Mobile Phone Processes

Mobile phones and associated accessories owned by students are brought to school at their own risk. The school does not accept responsibility for lost or damaged student mobile phones or accessories.

Student's mobile phones and any associated accessories, including headphones and bluetooth devices which are brought to school must be turned off and away in bags and are not to be used unless specifically instructed to do so by the teacher. Smartwatch notifications are to be turned off during the school day.

Parent responsibility:

Students are responsible for following the *Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools* Policy and procedures as set out by GRC Oatley. Parents are requested to support the school and their student by not texting or phoning during the school day. To contact your student, ring the front office and we will make arrangements for them to contact you.

Student responsibility:

- To follow the *Students' Use of Mobile Phones in Schools* Policy.
- To follow the Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus use of Student Mobile phone plan.
- To follow teacher instructions. **Teacher responsibility:**
- To instruct students to turn off and put away their phones in their bags before students enter the class.
- Clearly articulate the use of phones by students for educational purposes.
- To follow the Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus use of Student Mobile phone management plan and implement consequences as required.
- Staff are to model appropriate mobile phone use. **Strategies to manage inappropriate student behaviour** Individual teacher behaviour management practices suited to older adolescents are supplemented by the Two Warning system and Faculty Contracts and Head Teacher referrals in the first instance. Flow charts are included in the Staff Handbook. Consequences:
- First offence: Verbal reminder, phone in bag and warning 1.
- Second offence: Phone gaol and warning 2.
- Third offence: Warning 3, student sent to DP to hand in phone. Student is placed on a faculty contract by the Head Teacher.
- Fourth Offence: Student sent to Principal to hand in phone. Formal caution issued. Parents contacted to pick-up the phone.
- Further offences will be dealt with under the DoE Suspension and Expulsion Policy.

Exemptions

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus understands there may be students who have a medical and / or wellbeing needs which will require them to access a mobile phone as defined in this plan. The Principal will meet with each student and their parents and carers as required in order to determine where an exemption will be applied for, on behalf of a student, as well as the adjustments to any school-based practices and procedures. This information will be disseminated to teachers via email and Sentral.

Contacting students

Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus understands there will always be emergencies when parents need to get in contact with students or vice versa during the school day. This should be kept to a minimum to avoid disturbing the students' learning. Parents and carers can make contact with the school through the school office (8567 3700 or oatleysnr-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) and students will also be able to contact parents or carers through the school office if urgent.



Facebook and Instagram

A reminder to follow us on social media. Please like both our Facebook and Instagram pages. Links are below.

<https://www.facebook.com/grcoatleysenioreampus/>

<https://www.instagram.com/grcoatleysenior/>

School Website

Please take them time to look at the information available to parents.

<https://oatleysnr-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>

2024 Calendar Dates

Diary Dates

- **Term 1**

Week 8/9 – Year 12 Assessment week (Friday 22/3 – Thursday 28/3)

Week 8 – Year 11 Progress reports emailed to parents

Monday 25th March – P&C meeting AGM

Friday 29th March – Good Friday

Week 11 – Year 12 Parent Teacher Night bookings open

12th April – Last day Term 1

- **Term 2**

Tuesday 30th April - School resumes for students

Monday 6th May – Year 12 semester 1 reports emailed to parents

Wednesday 8th May – Year 12 parent teacher night

Monday 27th May (7:00pm) - P&C meeting

Week 6 – Multicultural Week

Wellbeing Report



Good Egg Awards

In 2024 Student Advisors have introduced a new award for students in their house groups. The 'Good Egg' awards celebrate students who are displaying the schools core values of Respect, Responsibility and Excellence. They are a novel way for students to gain recognition for their efforts and contribution around the school. 'Good Egg' awards are worth 20 merit points and are presented in House Meetings for a range of categories including:

- Attendance
- Uniform
- Academic Improvement
- School Contribution
- Being an all round "good egg"

Congratulations to our first round of "Good Eggs" for 2024:

Year 11 Animus

Jasmine Devine

Michael Chen

Ali Elzein

Mairead Beavis

Finn Cho

Year 11 Fortis

Ai Kamikura

Annabelle Jeyachandran

Amelia Jeyachandran

Cody Fan

Aaron Faust

Chaimongkol Kokaphant

Year 11 Mirabilis

Emily Ognenovski

Charlee Marshall

Sienna Morrah

Gerald Maningas

Leo Pavlevski

Fasai Panyawan

Stefani Nedanovska

Year 11 Virtus

Landon Rowell

Lily Skinner

Hayley Stockwell

Kohen Taylor

Olympia Trikilis

Aidan Videka

George Yankos

Tian Hui (Viola) Ye

Jia (Jolin) Zhang

Year 12 Animus

Prashant Acharya

Laetitia Chen

Ava Cully

Xiao Xue Dai

Charlize Ametson

Natalia Athanasopoulos

Jabir Chalak

Taylor Burns

Razan Elagail

Electra Burgess

Jessica Bako

Alysa Ballis

Amrit Bhattarai

Thomson Chen

Year 12 Fortis

Jan Gamboa

Jess Henderson

Steven Guinto

Nicholas Jamieson

Emily Knight

Kayla Kormondi

Lofitu Finau

Yuxin Lin

Hanna Liu

Kitty Jiang

Year 12 Mirabilis

Sam Ridley

Bailey Plumer

Jolie Pham

Bonnie Petkoski

Erica McGowan

Mahdi Mousselmani

Lily Nilon

Year 12 Virtus

Ben Steinhardt

Jimmy Zhu

Amelia Sujchamir

Sierra Taufa

Mya Wright

Lukas Susac

Nathan Volau

Science Report

Physics excursion – Luna Park

Year 12 Physics students attended Luna Park for a day of problem solving and fun. Students were each assigned a ride and were given the challenge of calculating its physical attributes. Centripetal force, kinetic energy and work were among the values they needed to evaluate.

Being Physics, the students needed to apply their mathematical and problem-solving skills to do this successfully. Some solutions the students came up with included: using the neighbouring apartment blocks as an impromptu ruler to find the height of the *Big Dipper*; using the density of steel to estimate the mass of a carriage on the *Boomerang*; and estimating G force by the amount the face stretch when spinning on the *Rotor*.

The students were fortunate that the promised rain held off for the duration of the excursion. They approached their learning challenges conscientiously and were all excellently behaved. We can be very proud of them.

David Kerwick (Head Teacher Science)



Maths Report

The Australian Mathematics Competition is an annual event, with 172 791 students entering the competition from 2156 schools. The competition is held in over 30 countries and challenges students with problems in the field of Mathematics. The competition encourages analytical thinking, creativity and problem solving.

Our students at GRC Oatley have excelled remarkably. 14 students entered the competition. Two of our students achieved distinction placing them in the top 20% of candidates, 4 students achieved credit and 7 achieved proficiency.

Certificate of Distinction was awarded to:

Stephy Wu

Emma Nguyen

Certificate of Credit was awarded to:

Anna Ye

Carlise Huang

John Truong

Hugo Wilson

Certificate of Proficiency was awarded to:

Hassan Hashem

Aneesa Tannaz

Kitty Jiang

Hadiyah Aghaei Zanjani

Jolie Pham

Prachi Shekhalia

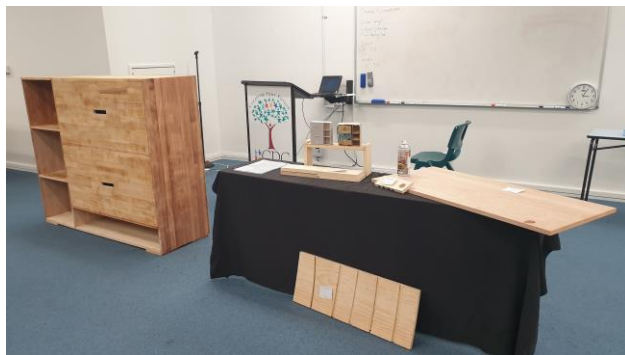
Mayson Jiang

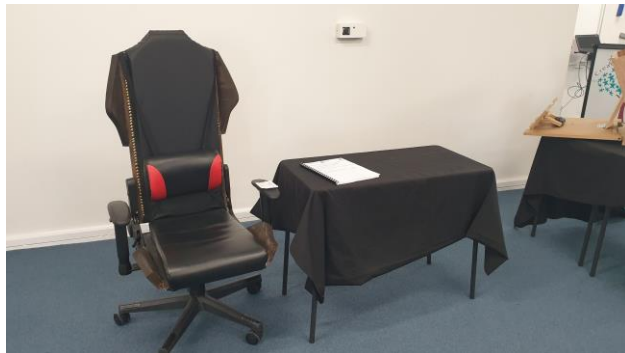
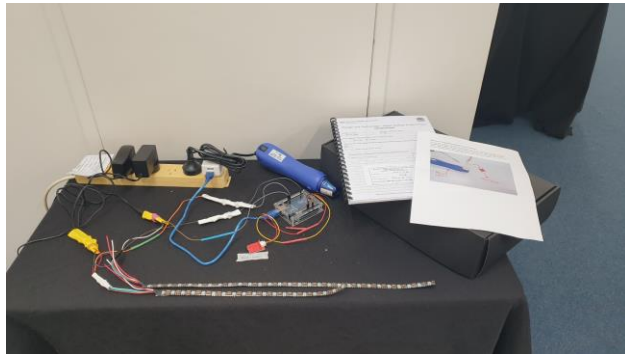
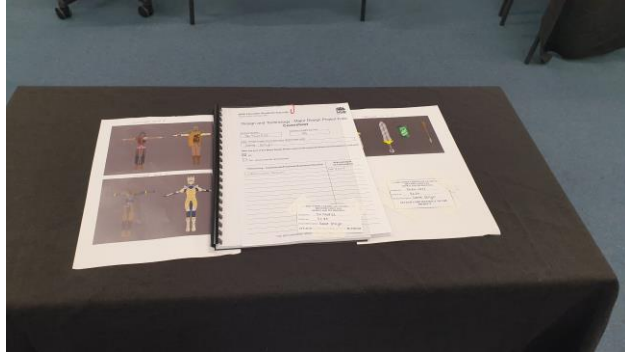
To all the students who participated, keep pursuing excellence in your endeavours and congratulations.

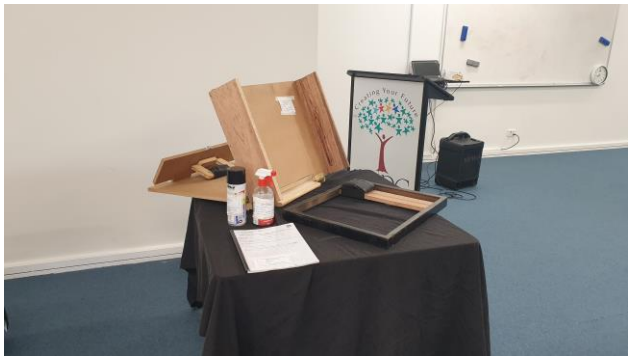
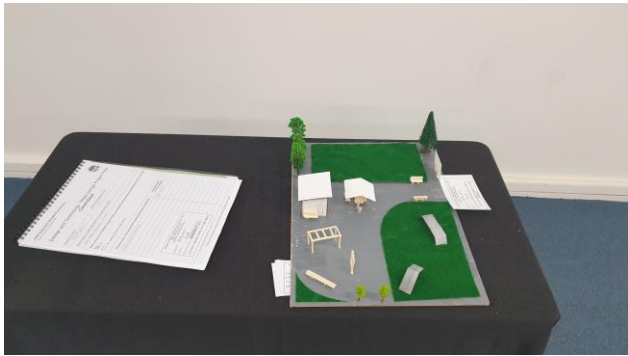
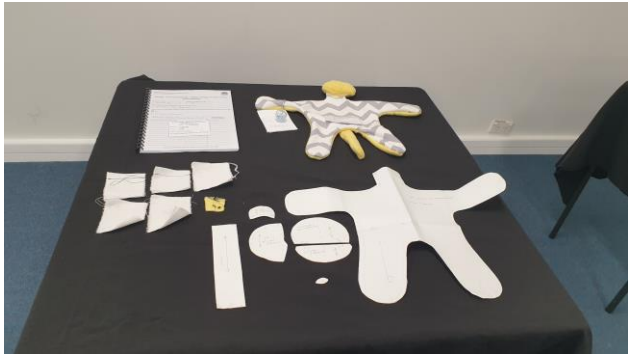
TAS Report

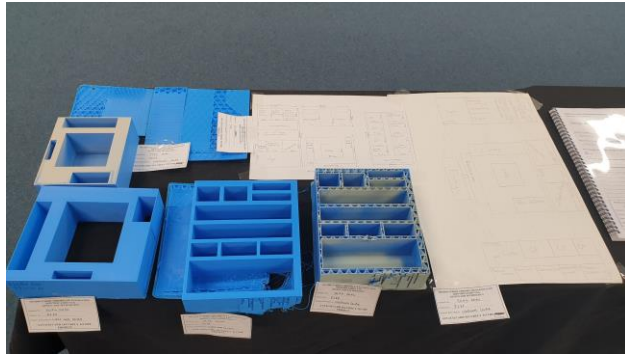
Major Projects

Students in Year 12 2023 completed major projects in TAS across three subjects - Textiles & Design, Industrial Technology Timber & Furnishing and Design & Technology. Students work steadily from Term 4 2022 to Term 3 2023 to complete a project of their own choice. They investigated and practiced new skills, planned, budgeted and spent many hours in and out of school to create a range of beautiful items. Congratulations year 12 on all your hard work and effort.

























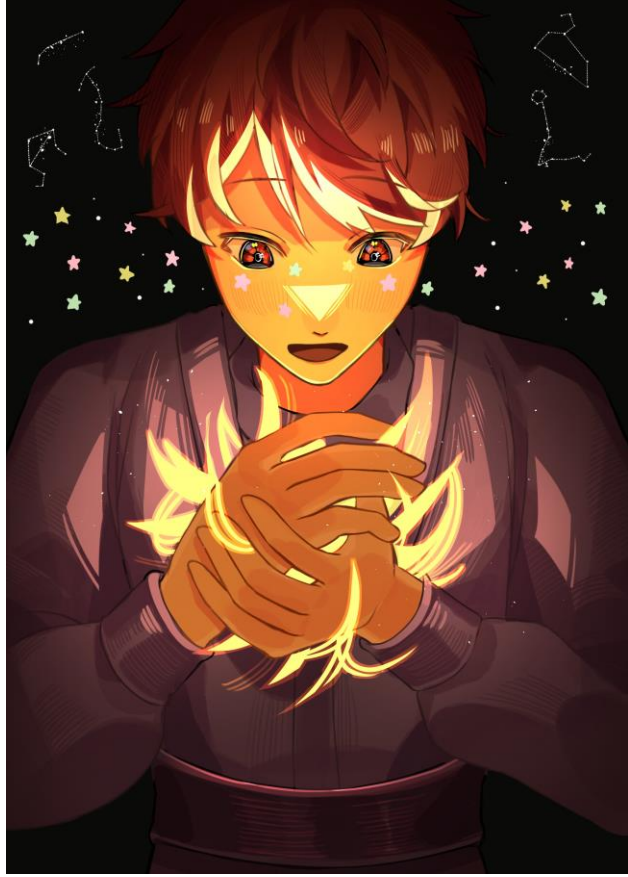
CAPA Report

HSC ART EXHIBITION

Our 2023 HSC Visual Arts students exhibited their final Body of Work practical pieces. Parents and friends were amazed by the creative talents of our students across a range of expressive forms.

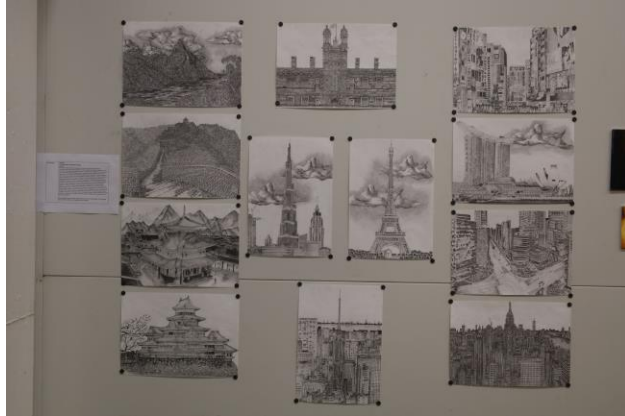




















VET Report

At the end of Term 4 last year, our Hospitality students prepared for our annual 'Say No to Violence' Breakfast. Our students truly showcased their amazing culinary talents. If you enjoyed the 2 course meal, please cook along at home.

Smokey baked beans

Ingredients

- 1 Onion - medium (diced)
- 3 Cloves Garlic (crushed)
- 20g Olive Oil
- 800g Chopped tin tomato
- 200ml Water
- 50g Tomato paste
- 20g Worcestershire sauce
- 20g Maple Syrup
- 1 tsp Smoked paprika
- 2 x 400g Cannellini beans (Rinsed)
- 1 tsp salt
- Pinch of pepper

Method

1. Preheat fry pan with oil
2. Add onion & garlic to fry pan and saute for 3 min.
3. Add remaining ingredients EXCEPT beans & cook for 15 min
4. Add rinsed beans and cook for further 3 minutes.
5. Serve with eggs, oven roasted truss tomatoes and a hash brown.



Senior Art Program



DJAMU SENIOR ART PROGRAM

Phoebe Hinde, one of our talented Visual Arts students, was accepted into and participated in the Djamu Senior Art Program. This program invites students to a 2-day course at the Art Gallery of New South Wales, where they were given a private tour of the gallery and a behind the scenes visit to the art conservation area. The Djamu Program focuses on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander concepts, perspectives and cultural practices to provide high-quality and ongoing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Greater Sydney to learn about art, culture and vocational pathways in the visual art sector.

Phoebe worked with Vicki West, a proud Pakana artist of the Trawlwoolway people from the Northeast coast region, who led them in an art making experience and exploration of her work that is displayed in the gallery.



HSIE Report

Year 12 Geography class attended an excursion where they explored Towra Point Nature Reserve near Kurnell. This was in line with our syllabus study of 'Ecosystems at Risk – Wetlands'. The students spent the day walking through mangroves, saltmarshes and a littoral rainforest to arrive at the pristine, conserved site of Towra Point Beach. The excursion was very practical, including using many instruments to measure abiotic factors of the different wetland areas. Students used tools such as anemometers, lux meters and compasses to measure the air temperature, light intensity, humidity, wind speed and direction. They looked at the human impacts on the site and how humans have altered the environment, as well as considering how First Nations Peoples would have managed and cared for Country at this location. The site itself is protected as a sanctuary for migratory birds yet is surrounded by Port Botany, Sydney Airport, oil refineries and water treatment plants. Highlights of the excursion included the sighting of a baby brown snake, many trips and stumbles and wading through knee deep mud and sludge. We would like to thank the team at Kamay Botany Bay EEC for their knowledge and passion in helping us bring our Geography syllabus to life!

Elektra Burgess - Year 12 Geography student





Special Education Report

International Day of People with Disability

Students and staff from the Support Unit attended an awards ceremony and morning tea at Hurstville Library. Georges River Council launched their 'Celebrating Localability' to celebrate the resilience and strength of people in the area, living with a disability.

Georges River College Oatley Campus were represented by having two students nominated for the 'Young Local Hero Award'. The award recognises the efforts of a young person aged between 12 and 25 years who is making a positive contribution to the Georges River Community. We were excited to support two of our students who were nominated; Adam Diab and Patrick Rasmussen from our 2023 cohort.

It is with great pride that we announce that Patrick Rasmussen received the 'Young Local Hero Award'.

Patrick, who has Fragile X Syndrome, has spent four years at the Australian Dance and Drama Company, where his confidence in musical theatre, dance and singing has soared, and he later joined the ADD Company's Dance Tour to Disneyland and Universal Studios. Patrick is a member of the Fragile X Association of Australia where he volunteers to raise awareness and assist in fundraising. Patrick meets everyday challenges head on and his determination to overcome his fears or hesitation is inspiring.

Well done, Patrick!



