

11 December 2013

From the Principal

Principal's Message



As the end of the year approaches and a most deserved holiday break, I would like to thank our community for their support in 2013. It has been a very successful year and another extremely busy year at GRC Oatley.

HSC 2013

The HSC finished in Mid-November to the collective sighs of students, parents and teachers. Two reinforced messages – Mobile phones and electronic equipment are banned from the HSC exam room. The offence is having it in your possession and claiming you were not using it, is no excuse. I estimate we tell the students 40 times over the 2 years not to take a mobile phone into an exam. Secondly, the importance of checking and rechecking the HSC Timetable. The BOS gives each student an individual, personalised copy of the timetable available on the BOS site – ‘Students On Line’ section. A copy should be put on the fridge so parents can check and ensure students get to exams on time.

HSC results will be released by the BOS on Wednesday 18th December at 6am. ATARS are released by UAC on Thursday 19th December. Schools do not have access to ATAR information so we appreciate a phone call or email so we can collate ATAR information. Best wishes to our Year 12 2013 as they await their results and embark on the exciting future years ahead.

Oatley Lions Club Festival

The SRC worked tirelessly from 8am to manage the carpark for the annual Oatley Lions Club Festival. Subsequently the Lions Club, were very kind to donate \$800 to our campus to purchase two electronic countdown timers for exam venues. We thank the Oatley Lions Club for their support.

Lions Club Youth of the Year

Congratulations to Bethany Pankhurst and Julia Spyrou for their involvement in the Lions Club Youth of the Year Competition. I was delighted to hear the girls’ prepared and impromptu speeches. The impromptu topics given were: Coal Gas Mining and Overseas Purchasing of Australian Land. Both were very difficult topics handled exceptionally well by both Bethany and Julia. Bethany’s prepared speech was “The 70% Solution” – a passionate speech about educating girls for economic progress. Julia spoke of “The Dark Side of Chocolate” – an

expose of child labour in the chocolate industry. Congratulations to both girls. They are great student leaders and ambassadors for the youth of today.

Year 11 2014

Thank you to Year 11 2014 and to the teachers from our middle schools for their contribution to our very successful two day Orientation Program. The behaviour and attitude of the students was excellent and we look forward to starting the senior school journey in 2014.s

I wish all our community a safe and relaxing holiday.

Return to School dates 2014

Year 12 return on Weds 29th Jan

Year 11 return on Thursday 30th Jan

Deidrei Bedwell
Principal

Geography Excursion to the Langham Hotel Sydney

On the 4th of November 2013 Year 12 Geography visited the Observatory Hill Education Centre and The Langham Hotel at the Rocks to study tourism. The first part of the day was spent at the education centre focusing on Tourism, which is the largest industry in the world. The World Tourism Organisation (WTO) forecasts that people travelling internationally will increase from 808 million in 2005 to 1.6 billion in 2020. The earning’s from tourism is expected to grow from \$US682 billion in 2005 to more than US \$2 trillion by 2020. As a result tourism has enormous effects on the world’s economies, societies and environments.



Our Geographers then walked down to Kent Street to take a tour of The Langham Hotel. Here we undertook a study of an economic enterprise (hotel) operating at a local scale. The students focused on:

- Ecological dimensions including environmental constraints, climate, and human impacts on the environment such as pollution and ecological sustainability.
- Linkages and flows of people, good, services and ideas within the economic enterprise
- Effects of global changes in the economic activity on the enterprise.

The students are to be commended for their involvement and outstanding behaviour on the day.



Rayelene Burgess
HSIE Teacher

CAREERS FEATURE FOR PARENTS

Does your young person have ideas about what step to take once they leave school? What job type is likely to suit their abilities and interests?

As part of their planning they should complete "Career Voyage" a comprehensive computer assisted career guidance tool.

Get a list of job suggestions..... with pros and cons

Students who did Career Voyage in Year 10 do it again.

They have probably changed a lot since then!

Career Voyage is accessible over the internet using our unique code:

<http://www.careervoyage.com.au/webaccess/au.html>

- create a new client
- ORG ID: 009703

Parents and carersyou can log in as an adult client and see what occupations are suggested for you!

Working through the questions helps us to understand the career decisions our young people are making at this stage of their lives

Penelope Morrison

SCHOOL LEAVERS

TAFE enrolment is ongoing and available on line

www.sydneystafe.edu.au

Use "Course and Career finder" for course specific registration details

If you need careers assistance once HSC results and ATARs are released email OR phone the FREE Careers Advisory Service

Students received the brochure below in the portfolio pack that was distributed by the front office at signout.



Penelope Morrison

Bethany Pankhurst Leading Social Change in our community

Just like her famous great, great, great Grandmother Emmeline Pankhurst who was a leading light in the suffragette movement Bethany is throwing herself in a new social justice group at Oatley.

The group have found a social inclusion program that aims to mainstream students with disabilities. With the aim to break down barriers in our community and achieve great outcomes for all our students.



Alex Gardiner

Y12 VET CONSTRUCTION MOSAIC TILING DESIGNS

The Art of Mosaic Tiling has seen a revival with Year 12 VET Construction at GRC Oatley. To start of the Tiling section of the VET Construction Syllabus, Mr Polyzoidis started the class off with a reference to the Ancient Art of Tiling from the ancient cultures dating back to 1500 B.C. Connections were made to Mosaic use in modern day society. Mosaic Tiling uses a variety of small individual pieces of tiles of various shapes and colours to create pictures of people, patterns, images and scenes of everyday life. The students were introduced to the mosaic tiling to give them the opportunity to learn how to handle tiles and tiling tools before they take on the full size tiling job of tiling the Storeroom for the Gallery Cafeteria.




Mr Polyzoidis

myFamilyLaw

myFamilyLaw is a free family law app where you can submit your family law query to a real family lawyer in your State in Australia. Also find information about divorce, property settlement, parenting arrangements, child support, family violence and your financial future. You can also use myFamilyLaw to find and connect with family law professionals, view inspiring motivational quotes and attend family activities listed in myFamilyLaw Events.

myfamilylaw.net.au

<h1>The Laramie Project</h1> 	<p>A play by Moisés Kaufman and The members of THE TECTONIC THEATER PROJECT</p>	<p>On October 7, 1998, a young gay man was discovered bound to a fence, savagely beaten and left to die, in the hills outside Laramie, Wyoming. Matthew Shepard's death became a national symbol of intolerance, but for the people of Laramie the event was deeply personal.</p>
	<p>PRESENTED BY: YEAR 12 DRAMA</p>	<p>Hear their voices.....</p>
<p>Wednesday 11th December Thursday 12th December 7.00pm Monk Theatre, GRC Oatley</p>		<p>Tickets: FREE Book your tickets through the front office.</p>

Talented Students Display Their Gifts

The annual Gifted and Talented Day – or GAT Day as we like to call it – was a great success, thanks largely to the efforts of the Year 12 GAT group who helped firstly to organise the proceedings and then mentor the incoming GAT students from the Junior Campuses.



The day was designed to cater for all tastes (literally, for lunch, which was vegetarian/Halal) with presentations and activities ranging from the serious to the silly (see photographic evidence!) The premise of GAT Day is both to introduce students to their peers (through group and individual expression) and to apprise students of the nature of the GAT Program for 2014/15, the latter involving elements of both pastoral care and learning strategies. To this end, we will be inculcating two essential life skills: firstly, 'mindfulness' to help students better focus and deal with the inevitable pressure

of the HSC; and secondly, critical thinking strategies to simultaneously broaden and refine their approach to problem-solving.

For us, it is crucial that the GAT Program is applicable not only across the KLAS, but beyond the classroom and into the world with its confusing plethora of possibilities that, as young adults, they will only successfully negotiate by making informed, ethical choices.



We'd like to acknowledge the efforts of the Junior Campus GAT Coordinators Sally Pankhurst, Lauren Osmond, Jim Alysandratos and Michelle Alexander. And a big thanks to the students in the Food Tech Catering Crew, led by Rebecca Jamieson, for organising a delicious lunch.

Kaci Tami
Peter Chapman

White Ribbon Day at Oatley Campus

"When I think of my mum, my sisters and the girls I go to school with, I would hate to think of one of them suffering violence or harassment". Oatley student Tapa Paulo, Captain of the Rugby League team followed some of his NRL idols in becoming an ambassador for ending the silence on violence against women.

Pretty soon the whole footie team and then other male students and teachers joined Tapa with the end result a moving assembly where males swore the white ribbon oath and signed a symbolic ribbon.

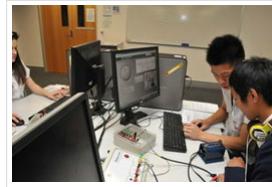
That was in 2012 and everyone thought it was a special event that could not be topped. **But the new group of year 11 students decided to create their own event.** Highlights included heartfelt speeches by young men who had never ever thought of standing in front of the whole school. Perhaps the biggest highlight was Mario Fenech, a 10 year ambassador for White Ribbon, who gave up an extra hour for photographs and encouragement for the young men and women who put the assembly together.

Follow this link for more pics and stories on our Engagement Blog

<http://grcoatley.wordpress.com/2013/12/05/white-ribbon-day-2013/>



Mario Fenech, White Ribbon Ambassador poses with the White Ribbon student committee featuring the new White Ribbon stairs and banner.



by Mr.Polyzoidis.



Click here to see a brief video of our students taking the white ribbon oath.

<http://vimeo.com/80311605>

Kevin Wright
Head Teacher Welfare

ENGINEERING STUDIES



The University of Wollongong Engineering Department held its Annual Engineering Studies Day for all Engineering Studies Students from both Public and Private Schools. The day was made up of Practical Hands on Engineering Tutorials that covered the many different areas of Engineering. Students were involved with Destructive Testing, Materials Engineering, Mining Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Industrial Robotics and Electrical Engineering.

