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25 September 2017

Principal's Report



Farewell Year 12

I would like to thank Year 12 as they prepare for their final week, for their service to the school, their goodwill and their humour. This is a special group of students who have a great deal of potential. More than that, they have endeared themselves to the GRC Oatley family.

The completion of Year 12 marks an important milestone for Year 12. Some have triumphed over particularly difficult personal challenges to reach this point. Their life will be very different from now on – now is a time for them to take a few moments to reflect on the things they have done to this point, and celebrate the great things that they have accomplished. Not all year groups are described by their teachers as witty, articulate, compassionate, motivated and intelligent. These words were used because, through their actions, they have demonstrated these qualities. Whether it be as part of the Creative and Performing Arts, the Industrial Arts, technology or computing sphere, linguistic ambassadors, authors, researchers, budding titration experts, the sporting arena or the magnificent service given by the leadership team. Collectively they have built the school spirit which makes it such a pleasure to be a part of GRC Oatley Senior Campus.

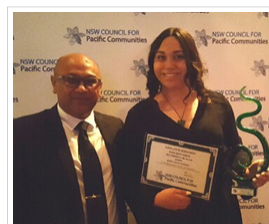
They are truly a credit to both their parents and the school.

Student Pacific Award

It is my pleasure to announce to our school community that Niana Boyd-Hawea (Year 11) was crowned Best Senior Sports person at the 2017 Pacific Awards. Niana was just one of a number of nominations received for this prestigious award. Niana's specialised competitive sport of choice is Waka Ama, otherwise known as Outrigging Canoeing. She has represented and competed at regional and national championships,

represented Australia and placed fourth at the recent World Canoeing Championship held in Australia.

Niana is looking forward to what her future holds in this sport and is aiming to compete at the next World Canoeing Championships held in Tahiti in 2018. This will be quite the achievement as she is hoping to successfully complete her HSC in the same year. We are looking forward to supporting her throughout Year 12 to achieve her dreams.



Southern Sydney Business Education Network (SSBEN) VET Excellence Awards

SSBEN is a non-profit organisation servicing the Sutherland Shire, which is part of a national network, striving to create partnerships between schools, businesses, community groups and families to address skills needs, assist business achieve sustainability and to support our next generation to realise their full potential.

Every year they host the VET Excellence Awards Breakfast, which is a showcase for the very best and brightest students undertaking a VET course as part of their pattern of study. Presentations are also made to a selection of host employers and VET Teachers who have supported the program and the students for many years. This is a prestigious event attended by senior education representatives and VIPs.

It is my pleasure to congratulate Ms Rebecca Jamieson and Katherine Liveris (Year 12) for both receiving awards.

Ms Jamieson was recognised for her dedication and support of VET workplace learning



Katherine was recognised for:

- Consistently working at a high level in all class activities
- Completing all assessment tasks to a high standard
- Always displaying a positive attitude and an interest in the VET subject
- Completing the mandatory work placement component and receiving positive feedback from the host employer.



2017 Deadly Kids Doing Well Awards

It was with immense pride and excitement that students, family members, teachers, Aboriginal Education staff and special guests entered The Great Hall of the University of Technology on Friday 8th September to celebrate the successes of students at the 2017 Deadly Kids Doing Well Awards.

A big congratulations goes to Violet Craven-Miller (Year 11) who was awarded a Deadly Kids Doing Well Award. The awards are a highlight of the Public Schools NSW Aboriginal Education calendar each year. They celebrate the academic achievements, leadership skills and attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in NSW public schools.



SASS Recognition Week

Last week was SASS recognition week. We are fortunate to be supported by 17 wonderful administrative and support staff who do everything from managing finances, enrolments, rolls and attendance, answering phones to helping teachers,

parents and visitors, supporting students with learning difficulties, tending to the gardens and maintenance, managing building projects, assisting in Science labs, the kitchen and the library.... and the list goes on. We simply could not function without them.

SASS Staff are a dedicated group of professional workers who are often overlooked in the school setting. Recognition Week gives the whole school the opportunity to demonstrate to them that they are valued members of the school community and to recognise them for their hard work and dedication.

In honour of their work, a morning tea was held to celebrate with, and thank, this terrific group of people.



Year 12 Major Works

Our HSC major works were on display this term for parents, students and teachers. We saw bumper crowds enjoy the spectacular displays. There is no better way to feel uplifted than to see work that has been done with conviction, effort and love. Congratulations to all teachers who have taught courses with major works for their hard work and guidance throughout the year.

Here is a snippet of works from various Key Learning Areas:

(a) 2017 HSC Textiles and Design - Innovative, Creative with a Degree of Difficulty!

The class have explored design, manufacturing techniques and innovation to create a broad range of major textile projects (MTP) for the 2017 HSC. The MTP commenced the first day of the HSC course. Students have worked hard over the past 11 months to develop the skills to not only achieve success in their project, but also help them with post school options. The skills developed are not only textile related but also are skills relating to organisation, task and time management.

Ms Edwards comments: "The students have challenged the boundaries of both the textile room and me as their teacher. I have truly enjoyed the experience of supporting these wonderful young people on their MTP journey".

(b) Visual Arts

Thirty-three Visual Arts and 10 Ceramics students exhibited their Body of Work at the 2017 GRC Art Exhibition. The works ranged from delicate pencil drawings to bold aggressive pieces. Sculptures, etchings, drawings, photographs and ceramics covering a variety of subject matter were evident, such as, mythology, war, politics and landscapes.



Melissa D'Ambra



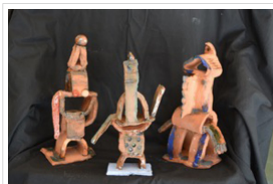
Claire Ollivain



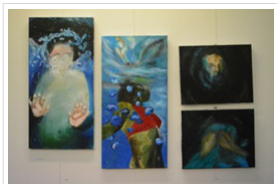
Latisha Carey



Amber Brown



Hamad Nasser



Latisha Carey



Nicole Galhardi

(c) Design and Technology

Design and Technology is a course that offers students the opportunity to design a product, system or an item for the built environment through the application of the design process as documented in the accompanying design folio. It is worth 60% of the external mark of the HSC. On Friday 8th September, two teams from NESA arrived at GRC Oatley to mark the Design and Technology Major Design Projects. A variety of products were designed ranging from architecture drawing table, mosaic table, door organisers, software apps and textiles products for women. We congratulate our students on their successful submission and acknowledge the four terms of commitment in their project management. Well done Class of 2017.



Tanisha Dormido

Oatley Cup Olympics

This term we held the inaugural Oatley Cup Olympics. It is important that we build a school culture of not only academic excellence but also a culture where students feel a sense of belonging ... this initiative was a great way to kick start this.

Thank you to Ms Jessica Davies and Mr James Munroe for their creative thinking behind this idea.

Special Mentions:

- Mr Butler and his team for organising and running the activities
- The Year Advisers for leading their house groups
- Mr Harries, Mrs Jamieson, Mr Munroe, Ms Munroe, Ms Barone and Mr MacKenzie for assisting with cooking the BBQ for the winning house.



HSC Examinations

The Higher School Certificate Examinations begin on Monday 16th October. Many students have already experienced the HSC due to major works being submitted for marking. We wish Year 12 great success for these examinations.

P&C Meeting

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th October at 7:00pm in the Horseshoe Theatre.

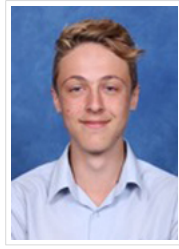
Term 4

As this is the last newsletter for Term 3, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support throughout the term and to the staff for their ongoing commitment to the students at GRC Oatley. Term 3 is an extremely hard term on teachers as we prepare students for HSC Trials, HSC examinations and major works not to mention report writing, Year 12 references, Year 12 graduation and formal.

Anna Girginis
Principal

Tennis

Congratulations to Timothy "The missile" Minny for his fantastic performance in the NSW CHS tennis championships. Timothy displayed the sportsmanship of Federer, the power of Nadal, the forehand of Wawrinka and the athleticism of Djokavic throughout the tournament. We are very proud of his effort.



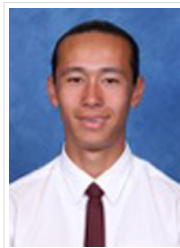
Athletics

Congratulations to the three athletes who progressed to the elite CHS athletics carnival at Sydney Olympic Park on Wednesday, 8th of September. We are extremely proud of all of their achievements throughout the year.

Chantal Yu finished 9th in the long jump and 10th in the highly technical triple jump

Amy Henry finished 7th in the gruelling 3000m walk

Donald Catallo finished 4th in the 400m hurdles.



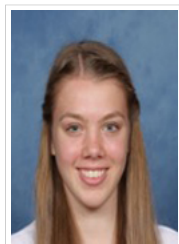
Chantal Yu

Amy Henry

Donald Catallo

Pierre De Coubertin Award – Lauren Chappell

This award is a joint initiative of the NSW Department of Education and Communities and the Australian Olympic Committee. The award recognises sporting achievements and the demonstration of values which are consistent with the Olympic Movement. This year Lauren Chappell is the recipient of this prestigious accolade.



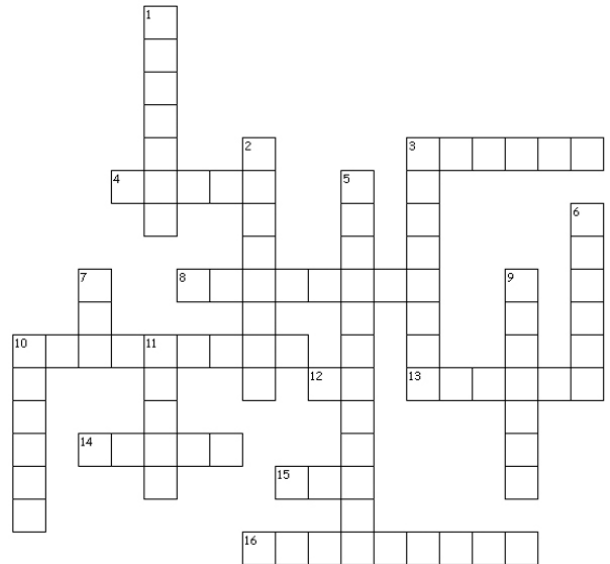
Lauren Chappell

Lauren was the GRC Under 17's cross-country champion and represented the school at the St George Zone and Sydney East Carnivals in both 2016 and 2017.

This year, Lauren was also the GRC and St George Zone 17 years' age champion for athletics, winning through to the Sydney East carnival in every track event from the 100m to the 800m and in the field events of long jump, high jump and triple jump.

Lauren has been a positive role model for her peers throughout her senior years in balancing her sporting and academic commitments, and is a fantastic ambassador for the school across a variety of disciplines. She was also the sportswoman of the year in 2016. Congratulations Lauren.

This Sporting Life



Across

- 3. GRC league coach
- 4. Olympic city 2020
- 8. De coubertin award winner
- 10. Outrigging Canoe champion
- 12. long and triple jumper
- 13. Mr Harries NRL team
- 14. GRC's Roger Federer
- 15. 400m hurdler
- 16. 2018 Commonwealth games venue

Down

- 1. Head teacher of sport
- 2. the volkanator
- 3. Australian women's football team
- 5. Maximum ten pin score
- 6. House shield winners
- 7. run when you can walk 3000m
- 9. GRC Australian cricketer
- 10. Champion Jujitsu twins
- 11. Wallaby and GRC old boy