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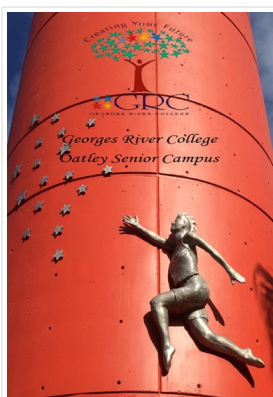
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21 November 2016



Principal's Report



Student Leadership Team

Traditionally Term IV is always an exciting one and this year will be no exception. We started with the Induction Ceremony for our new Student Leadership Team.

Student leadership at GRC Oatley Senior truly reflects the quality of students we have in our school. At our school, student leadership is expected and practised on a daily basis. The quality of this leadership, especially that demonstrated by the Captains, Vice Captains, SRC Presidents and the SRC, is a critical determinant in creating loyalty, pride and ethics within our school. Good leaders in my estimation should have some qualities and that is the quality of compassion and kindness. It's about giving respect, not demanding respect. It's about respecting the human rights of everyone, of other people and your own.

On behalf of the school community, I congratulate our outgoing Student Representative Council on their wonderful achievements. They have excelled at ensuring that high quality student leadership, founded on the school's values of Respect, Responsibility and Excellence, underpins our school's ethos, and I thank them on behalf of the GRC Oatley community for their outstanding leadership of the student body over the last twelve months.

I am extremely confident that our incoming 2017 SRC will rise to the challenge and build on the strong legacy that this year's student leadership team have left. They will be charged with successfully implementing changes to structures within the school from a student perspective, as well as being the sounding board when students' views on issues relating to their school are required.

I wish that many more people could have sat on the Selection Panel with me as we listened to the pride with which the students, who were inducted into Student Executive positions, spoke about their school. The desire to serve and give back to our school was a very humbling thing for a Principal to listen to and a credit to each and every one of them. All of the students demonstrated heightened levels of commitment, care and compassion for others and the responsibility that comes with decision-making that has the potential to impact on so many.

I know that the SRC will be ably led by Mr Worner. He commits a tremendous amount of time and energy into ensuring that student ideas and initiatives not only come to fruition but are successful in achieving what students set out to do.

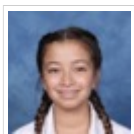
It is with pleasure and great pride that I announce the following students as the 2017 senior leaders:

2017 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Ansaar Baig

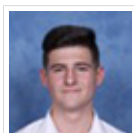


Layla Abrahams Patel

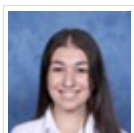


2017 VICE CAPTAINS

Jamie Papaioannou

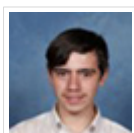


Alexia Karras

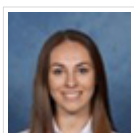


2017 SRC PRESIDENTS

Raukawaitei Nuku-Ratana



Heidi Ristevska



2017 Year 12 Student Representative Council

A'ishah
Ashan
Samuel
Attard
Taylor
Baker

Lauren
Chappell
Yousef
El-Jurf
Mehdi Hamdi

Tiffennie Kau
Domerico
Logozzo

Andriana
Madentzoglou
Lucas Williamson



Year 12 Formal

The last week of school in Term 3 was memorable for our Year 12 students for a number of reasons. Foremost of these was the night they shopped, prepared and looked forward to for some time, the Year 12 Formal! Makeup artists and hair salons in the local area had obviously been busy during the day as the transformation many undertook was simply amazing. The event kicked off early in the evening at the Four Seasons Hotel and our young men and women arrived right on cue, dressed impeccably, for what was to be an amazing night. The event was well attended by staff, who were keen to celebrate, as is tradition with their Year 12 students. It was a great opportunity to unwind from what had been a busy time for our senior students and I know many photos and good memories were taken away from the night.

A special thanks to Mr Worner, who organised the night and to the Year 12 Year Advisers, Mr France, Ms Alexiou, Mr Polyzoidis and Ms Good for the support, organisation and guidance they have tirelessly offered this cohort over their years at GRC Oatley.



Head Teacher HSIE



I have pleasure in introducing to you Richard Nikolovski, our new Head Teacher HSIE. Richard comes to us from Hursllstone Park Agricultural High School. He brings to GRC Oatley, a wide range of experiences, a fresh perspective, an incredible work ethic and a desire to continue to make a difference at our school. Please join me in welcoming him to the GRC community.

Year 12 End of Year Celebrations

One of the highlights last term was the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony which was held at Sydney Town Hall on Friday 23rd September where staff, parents and students celebrated one of the more significant milestones in our students' lives. It is always a pleasure to celebrate the success and achievements of our student body and also wish them every success for the HSC and their future. A huge thank you to the organisers who always manage to make this an excellent event - Ms Narelle Straney, Ms Vanessa Terry, Ms Leanne Roberts, Mr Neale Harries and the CAPA staff. They worked tirelessly to prepare the programs, certificates, the performers and prizes.

Major Works

We have received fabulous news that so far, two of our students have been nominated for their HSC major works.

1. Call back 2016

Isabella Russell for Dance.

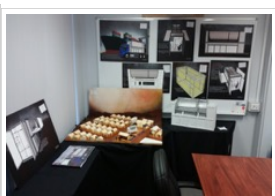
She is being recognised for all 3 categories - Major performance, core performance and core composition.

2. Space 2016

Vaughan Griffin for Design and Technology

Vaughan's project is a 'Biomass Pyrolysis Unit', which is a concept of utilising the sun to convert faecal matter into usable water and manure for disadvantaged and isolated communities.

Congratulations to the teachers involved - Ms. Cardillo /Ms Crammond (Dance) and Mr Kontikos (Design and Technology). Your mentoring and support of these students have enabled them to produce pieces of work worth exhibiting. You have every reason to be proud of not only their achievements, but also your own. A job well done!



It is also timely for us at GRC Oatley, with Year 11's having already begun their HSC studies, which many see as one of the more stressful times in their young lives.

There are a range of resources available to assist those in need of help, in addition to our counselling and welfare staff at the school. Some outside agencies include:

Reach Out:	www.reachout.com
Black Dog Institute:	www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/
Beyond Blue:	www.beyondblue.org.au
Lifeline:	13 11 14
Kids Helpline:	1800 55 1800

Higher School Certificate Students and Exams

Now that the HSC exams are finished, the school hopes all students enjoy a well-earned break. Sitting the HSC is about resilience and facing challenges. It's an important part of life, allowing us to grow and toughen. I received extremely positive feedback from the HSC Examination Presiding Officer about the behaviour of our students during the examinations – Congratulations Year 12!

Students will need to ensure that all the issued textbooks and resources are returned to the correct faculty in the manner arranged. This is required as part of the sign-out process. We look forward to seeing all of Year 12 again at the end-of-year BBQ on Friday 16th December 2016, to share their joys, achievements and aspirations for the future.

World Teachers' Day – Friday October 28

World Teachers' Day, celebrates the contribution of teachers to the development of our young people and the success of our nation.

Australian school students are amongst the best educated in the world, have more positive attitudes to school and better relationships with teachers than most western countries. This doesn't just happen. It reflects the work and skills of teachers. As a community we need to acknowledge how much our young people benefit from the skills and knowledge, care and understanding and sustained commitment of teachers. World Teachers' Day reminds us of the importance of all teachers who have touched our lives in some way. We should all take a moment to say thank you.

I want to acknowledge the teaching staff at GRC Oatley who work very hard, are loyal and dedicated to their cause - excellent education for students - and are a pleasure to work with. We are always in the business of reflecting on improvement. While I would never suggest for one moment that we know all the answers and that there is not more to do, I can't think of a better collective to deliver terrific things for your children. I am very proud of the staff at this school.

Mental Health Month

October is Mental Health Month and statistics show that at any given time 20% of the population is experiencing mental health issues. Mental Health Month is the perfect time to reach out to family, friends and students to check on their wellbeing. It is an opportunity for us to have an open discussion about mental health and to look after those around us.

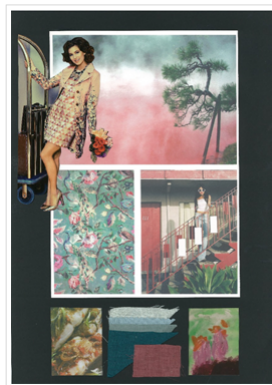
Anna Girginis
Principal

Lifelong Learning – Ms Edwards

During the recent spring holiday period I was lucky to attend a workshop over three days that focused on fashion illustration, visual design and manipulating commercial patterns.

The workshop was held in trendy Marrickville, a great location, right in the middle of the textile hub. Teachers from schools around the state joined me, spending our time developing our drawing and drafting skills.

Producing drawings of professional standard is beneficial for success in the stage 6 course, textiles and design. During my three days I have developed my skills and made contacts that would not only be of benefit to our current cohort of students but will enrich the cohorts yet to come to Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus.



Commencing the design process.



First draft, including the see through skirt and lace sleeves. Action in the workshop with Anita and Susan from the ACT

From the Library

The library is always a hive of active, more so recently with staff booking classes of students in Year 12 2017 to research their major works and PIPs. With the assistance of Mr Darlington, students have been introduced to using the Oliver Library catalogue to carry out their research and to find resources within the school library, via clickview, the NSW state library and Trove. Students have had the opportunity to look at past students' major work projects held in our library as well as use the resources and books from the shelves. Feedback about these research lessons from students and staff has been positive, and highlights the wonderful text resources students can access, while working in a quiet and productive atmosphere.

Our library theme display is currently, "Sink your teeth into these terrifying tales" promoting great horror reads. The display is constantly changing, so drop by and see what's on display in November.

Keep reading!

Regards

J. Darlington and E. Love
(Relieving Teacher Librarians)



Timber Recycling- Thanks to Mr Sayed Ahmad.

Life is full of surprises. One fine morning Mourad Sayed Ahmad asked if the TAS Department would like a truck load of timber from a demolition job his father had just completed. The obvious answer was yes.

The next morning the timber arrived and was off loaded in front of the Construction Shed.

The timber was Oregon and had belonged to a local. It was over 50 – 60 years old and was extremely stable.

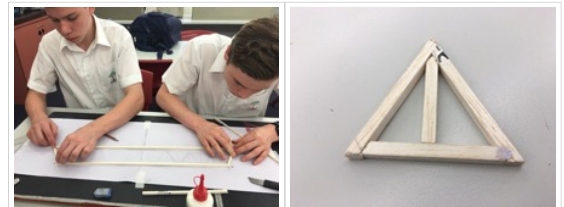
The next job was to carefully extract all the nails and store the timber. This was a great way to save money and to show students the importance of recycling and the hard work that goes into preparing and storing the timber.

Thank you to Mr Sayed Ahmad for his ongoing support of GRC Oatley.



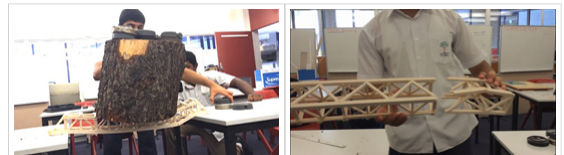
Technology and Applied Studies

Engineering Studies – Civil Structures Bridge Designs by Mr. Polyzoidis

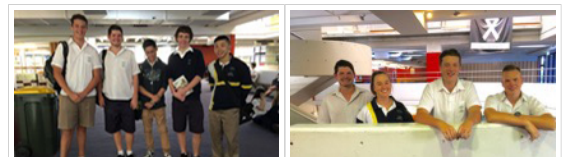


Year 12 Engineering Studies are currently working in teams to construct a 600mm long Truss Bridge using Balsa Wood. Once the designs have been built by the teams, they are then tested to see the maximum weight they can hold before breaking.

The record for the strongest bridge to date was set last year. The Bridge carried a maximum of 38 kg and weighed 120g. The bridge was able to carry 316 times its own weight (see photos below).



Year 12 Signing Out Photos



Newsletter Co-Ordinator Report – Mr. Polyzoidis

I would like to congratulate all of our Y12 Students in the completion of their HSC studies and the completion of their HSC Exams. Wishing you all the best in your chosen career paths.

A special thanks again to all who have helped and contributed to the Newsletter. It is this contribution that allows us to showcase to the community the great programs offered at GRC Oatley.

