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5 July 2018

## Principal's Report



### ACEL Leadership Award

A few weeks ago, I was given the opportunity to nominate one staff member for the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) Leadership Award. Up to ten (10) Leadership Awards are given each year to individual educators or teams of educators who have demonstrated

outstanding performance in leading an educational organisation or initiative which has accomplished significant growth in outcomes for children, students and/or teachers, or major cultural change within that organisation or the profession at large.

The criteria was as follows:

Nominators should specifically focus on *identifying and describing the achievements, capabilities and practices that clearly demonstrate outstanding educational leadership by this person or team.*

**It is with pleasure and excitement that I announce Diana Repole (English teacher) as a winner of one of the 2018 ACEL Leadership Awards.**

Diana is an exceptional classroom practitioner with a strong moral purpose who has had a significant influence on the teaching practice of her colleagues, particularly young teachers who seek her guidance. She is a highly collaborative educator who is a loyal and determined leader committed to making a difference. She has led a college-wide initiative to facilitate teacher professional learning to improve student progress in the areas of inferential reading and effective writing with a particular focus on the transitional development from Stages 4 – 6. The *Reading for Meaning, Writing for Purpose* initiative has been very



successful. Diana has been highly strategic and proactive in leading middle school teachers to revise programming, teaching strategies and assessment approaches to facilitate shared best practice about what works best in teaching these critical areas.

Diana is a worthy recipient of this award and thoroughly deserves the accolades that come with it. Please join me in congratulating her.

### Year 11 Parent Teacher Night

It was wonderful to see so many parents attend our Year 11 Parent Teacher Night. It is well established that the more interested and involved a family is in the educational experience of their child, the better the outcome for the child. Therefore, we value the role of informed parent participation in our school community. Open parent communication is absolutely vital to ensure a quality education for your child. When respectful, proactive communication is established between home and school a child will truly be supported in reaching their learning potential.

As I spoke with parents and caregivers throughout the afternoons, their feedback was very positive - complimenting our staff on the way in which they educate their children. It is always great to receive positive feedback and it is a testament to the work that our teachers do and the productive partnerships with our community.

### Subject Information Nights / Curriculum Expo

This term we opened our doors to both students and parents from our GRC middle campuses and from other public and private schools. There was a positive vibe from our visitors as we embarked on the important process of Year 10 Subject Selections for Year 11 next year.

I would like to thank head teachers and teachers of each of the faculties for the information they provided to parents as we prepare to transition GRC Year 10 students into our senior campus.

We would love feedback on any aspect and want the opportunity to clarify or assist, so please do not hesitate to

contact us if there are any queries that haven't been addressed at our forums.

Year 11 2019 enrolments are now open. Please tell neighbours or family who are seeking enrolment to get their applications in as soon as possible.



## School Contributions

Outstanding invoices were mailed to families and I encourage all families to attend to these at your earliest convenience so that we can continue to provide the breadth of learning opportunities for our students.

## Where can parents get help with social media issues?

The e-Safety Commissioner's website hosts a number of useful resources for parents who want to learn about the digital environment, how to keep children safe online and what to do if something goes wrong. These include:

- an online screen smart parent tour which provides parents with tips and practical steps so they can help their child explore safely and manage online issues should they arise
- help with cyberbullying, including how to collect evidence of cyber bullying, complain to a social media service, and if that service does not act, how to complain to the e-Safety Commissioner.

Check out these resources for parents and more on the e-Safety Commissioners website below

<https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent>

## Uniform

As the mercury falls and the new term commences, the student body has been reminded that correct school uniform is to be worn. Our school's Uniform Code specifies the types of acceptable jackets and jumpers **which DOES NOT include jackets or jumpers with hoods in various colours!**

Students have been made aware that their behaviour and deportment on the way to and from school in the public arena, must be exceptional at all times and wearing their uniform proudly is part of this expectation.

The majority of our students arrive at school in the correct uniform and I thank our parents for their ongoing diligence in ensuring this important issue is regularly addressed and monitored.

## Train Safety

Many of our students use public transport to get to and from school every day. Sydney Trains has provided schools with the following information to ensure student safety at all times.

Please discuss the following information with your son / daughter to help them:

- use the trains safely on our network
- understand the importance of their behaviour towards fellow customers who also use the trains and stations.

Sydney Trains do take safety very seriously and we care about the safety of all our customers. To help educate students to use the trains and stations safely, we have an education program for schools and education centres. These workshops are conducted in small groups (class sizes) and run for the length of the period/s to match the individual school timetable.

More information about the program can be found below where you can also make booking requests. These workshop incursions are run free of charge for schools and education centres.

<http://www.sydneytrains.info/education>

We understand not everyone will find our program useful or have the time to fit it into their busy schedule however we do encourage parents and educators to remind students and our community from time to time to always act in a safe manner on and near stations where there are trains.

**Kind regards,  
Kwong Chow  
Schools Program Support Officer  
Customer Support  
Customer Delivery  
P: (02) 85742284**

## National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The Australian government has released a discussion paper about 'Supported School Transport and the National Disability Insurance Scheme' on their website below

<https://engage.dss.gov.au>

As the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is rolled out across Australia, this paper asks for your feedback on how supported school transport could work under the NDIS.

This is your opportunity to have your say via a submission on how you would like to see supported school transport operate in our State. The consultation period will end on 20 July at 5:00pm.

There will be some face-to-face consultations held throughout the state, full details will be updated on their website when they are available.

For any further information about the discussion paper or submission you can email [transport@dss.gov.au](mailto:transport@dss.gov.au).

**Anna Girginis  
Principal**

## LOTE faculty

After over 70 days of intense and arduous competitions, the GRC Oatley Senior campus Chinese debating team were crowned NSW CHAMPIONS! The team demonstrated excellence, collaboration, and confidence throughout the competition. They thoroughly deserved to win and represented the school with pride and exemplary behaviour.

The following students took part in the debates:

- Huiyu Eva Zhang
- Ruowen Rachel Wang
- Ruoyan Ella Zhang
- Jing Zeng
- Wenxuan Amy Tian
- Zhiqian Linda Wang
- Yanlin Tony Chen
- Yuting Zhan
- Guannan Lu
- Chenglin Jing

Our team won the final against Macquarie Grammar with judges favouring GRC Oatley 13 - 2. Our representatives for the final were: Huiyu Eva Zhang, Ella Zhang, Ruowen Rachel Wang, and Jing Zeng.

A massive congratulations must also go to Huiyu Eva Zhang who was awarded 'Best Debater' overall. This was a great achievement as 384 students from 28 schools competed in the competition.



## Debating and Public Speaking

GRC Oatley has been busy constructing arguments and putting forth ideas for their participation in the Year 11 Metro Premier's debating challenge. GRC Oatley debated Sydney Girls High School on the topic of cheerleading and should it be banned from sport.

GRC Oatley were the affirmative and constructed a strong model that proposed banning cheerleading from professional and commercial sports arguing that there are alternative ways that this sport can be celebrated and displayed. They also spoke about the negative impact cheerleading can have on sexualisation of women and rape culture. Although they constructed a strong case, Sydney Girls demonstrated that cheerleading itself is a valuable skill and sport in its own right and that commercial and professional sport enabled strong earnings for cheerleading. They also disagreed that cheerleading sexualised women but rather argued that cheerleading empowered women.

Sydney Girls arguments won the debate but special mention needs to be made of Rithysak Yous and Brain Hwang who participated in their first competition debate and spoke so clearly and eloquently. I also want to thank Laura Bancroft and Jack Appleby who were participants in all our debates and contributed so helpfully to our Tuesday afternoon practice sessions.



GRC Oatley also participated in the Plain English Speaking competition. Laura Bancroft and Ella-Rose Liasides competed with other delegates from our region at GRC Peakhurst Campus. Laura spoke passionately on language and its impact on rape culture, Ella-Rose cleverly questioned the assumption of choice bringing greater happiness yet also acknowledged the benefits that the choice of wealth brings. Both girls delivered an impromptu speech on the greatest human vice. Congratulations to both Laura and Ella who have excellent skills in conceptual thinking and constructing argumentation on their feet.

Laura successfully advanced to the Regional finals where she competed against schools across Sydney's southern and eastern suburbs. She was able to deliver again her prepared speech on language and rape culture and her impromptu topic was after the storm. Laura was unsuccessful in reaching State finals but we congratulate Laura on her achievements in Public Speaking and Debating this year.



## CAPA Faculty

### Visual Arts Excursion to the Sydney Biennale at Cockatoo Island 5/6/18

All the Visual Arts students from GRC senior campus arrived on time, in full school uniform and efficiently got their names marked off. 71 students and 5 teachers then walked to the station, caught the train to Town Hall, changed trains to Wynyard and then found their way down to the King Street Wharf for the 10am ferry to Cockatoo Island. Perfect.

Ms Lynch, Mr Jeffers, Ms Sedgers, Mr France and Ms Vines assisted this large group of students navigate the public



transport, the busy city environment, inclement weather and most importantly the weird and wonderful post-modern installations.

Ai Weiwei 's massive installation was a feature at the Island this year. The *Law of the Journey* was a black plastic inflatable boat carrying 280 refugees. The sheer scale of the work reflected Ai's concern for the refugee problem around the world, which he describes as a "humanitarian problem". GRC Oatley Visual Art students experienced the latest contemporary artworks close up and have gained a deeper appreciation and understanding of the post-modern world, which was obviously exhausting.



### **Ms Sedgers**

## **GRC Stage Band – Port Macquarie Tour 2018**

The GRC Stage Band has returned from another successful tour to the Big Band Blast in Port Macquarie. This three day tour included activities such as:

- Performing a 45-minute set at Port Panthers
- Participating in the "Friday Night Jam" - a concert where students sight read all the music and have a lot of fun.
- Workshops on improvisation, vocals and big band development
- Concerts featuring Ross Irwin (The Cat Empire), Dennis DiBlasio (USA), Judy Baily (Head of Jazz Studies, Sydney Conservatorium) John Morrision, Jacki Cooper and Ed Wilson
- A New Orleans style parade involving over 300 players.

GRC students learnt a lot through participating in the workshops run by the guest artists. At times, our students were singled out to demonstrate techniques, notably Daniel Rispler (Yr 12) in the rhythm section session and Ashleigh James (Yr 12) in the vocal masterclass. Anna Finos (Yr 12) and Daniel Ko (Yr 12) also helped out in the Beginner Improvisation sessions by mentoring younger players.

There was lots of fun to be had in between activities, mixing with other schools, epic UNO games and jam sessions on the bus, as well a gourmet BBQ night.

We got to meet many students from all around Australia and got to chat with the visiting musical stars. It was great to see

the students mixing, making new friends and enjoying making music together.

Congratulations Stage Band members on a fantastic and memorable tour. Thanks to Mrs Pryce for organising the tour and to Mr Scott for coming along and helping out!

## **GRC STAGE BAND**

Wednesdays, 4.15pm-5.45pm: Oatley Campus music studio  
Open to all GRC students – ANY CAMPUS

Intermediate-Advanced players: sax, trumpet, trombone, drums, bass, guitar, keys, vocals

Enquiries: [angela.pryce@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:angela.pryce@det.nsw.edu.au)



## **HSIE Faculty**

### **Year 11 Geography Excursion- Wallumarra Track RNP**

On Wednesday 13th June, Year 11 Geography spent the day exploring the Wallumarra Track in the Royal National Park. The day was extremely valuable and gave Year 11 a chance to observe first-hand the interactions of the biophysical environment along the track. The students also developed their fieldwork skills and collected measurements to use back in the classroom. Thankfully, the sun was shining and we left the track free of leeches (well we did get 2 but couldn't tell Ms Barone). The students had a very memorable day and the walk was spectacular, taking us from the heathland at Garie Trig Station along the valley side and into the rainforest along Bola Creek.

### **Raylene Burgess HSIE Teacher**



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jf4HZNSNN-Q>

## **TAS Faculty**

**FOOD TECHNOLOGY** is an engaging course, which requires hands on practical lessons. Many students choose this course as part of their pattern of study for the HSC. Students enjoy many topics, including the making of many healthy and nutritious meals. This subject creates the foundations of basic learning skills to study independently and find effective ways of studying that is applicable to many other subjects. For instance, summarising chapters at our own pace, which allows us to understand the content thoroughly.

By continuing the study of Food Technology in Year 12, we have engaged in a new and an amazing experience of designing new food products, which has allowed us to explore our creativity. For example: The recent task that we have completed challenged us to develop an innovative pie for Australian families to enjoy. This assignment was divided into three sections that included a report of your chosen pie, a practical component, and the designing of a packaging that suits the theme of your pie. The results of this pie were outstanding as many of us had ingenious ideas that exceeded the expectations of the teachers.

### 12FTA students.



## Special Education Faculty

### Surf Awareness

The students of the Support Unit have been participating in a specialised Surf Awareness Program at Cronulla this term. The program is run by the Council Lifeguards and is designed to teach students swimming and safety skills for when they are at the beach. The students have developed strong friendships with the Lifeguards and their independent living skills have improved substantially.



### John Martello- A success story

We have recently said our farewells to Year 12 student John Martello, who has gained full-time employment in a five star hotel in the city. John's goal was full-time work in the hospitality industry and this opportunity is a fabulous one for him. John has always worked to the best of his abilities and it was not uncommon for him to receive praise from his Work Placement Employer for his excellent work ethic. Whilst John has moved on, he will still qualify for his Life skills Higher School Certificate and will graduate with his peers in September. Well done, John.



### Disability Service Providers Expo

The Support Unit community are fortunate that the district's Disability Employment Expo was held at Georges River College Oatley on Monday the 2nd of July this year. The Expo featured providers of employment training, housing, health, in home support, social and sporting opportunities for people with disabilities. The Expo is an important event in our school calendar as we are able to work through the many job opportunities & Day programs available for our fantastic students and their families. This is an essential day for families who require assistance for post school options for their young person with a disability.



## PDHPE Faculty

### Puma Cup Football – Sydney East Champions

Congratulations to our boys' football team on their fantastic performances en route to the Sydney East Championship final.

**Round 1 v Sydney Tech** – We began the competition with an emphatic 6-3 victory, with two goals to Nick Evdjic and Abdulraman Kamara.

**Round 2 v Heathcote** – After going behind in the first five minutes to a brilliant Heathcote goal, the team showed admirable determination in fighting back to even the score. Mahmoud Noreldin was fouled in the box, and star midfielder Nick Evdjic converted from the penalty spot.

The momentum was with our boys and they powered on to get the winning goal, thanks to our talismanic captain Abdulraman Kamara who bludgeoned a right foot volley into the corner for a 2-1 victory.

**Sydney East Final** – Menai High proved to be a worthy opponent in this fiercely contested match. Our boys created the early chances through the wizardry of Eric Attard. At the



defensive end, our brilliant shot stopper Anurod Ojha, made a string of great saves. Goals were difficult to come by until the second half when the ever enthusiastic Mahmoud Noreldin drove at the defence and forced an error which led to an own goal.

The winning goal was within reach, and it came through the unlikely source of centre back and hard man Abbas Dakdouk, who was first to react to the free-kick and celebrated like it was his first ever goal. Special mention to Peter Tufevski who terrorised the defence with his speed and technical ability, and also the defensive unit of Anes Bektas, Abbas Mousselmani, Abbas Dakdouk and Billy Adams who have collectively built a formidable wall for opposition attack.

Congratulations to the team who this week made it through to the final 8 with a 2-1 win against the Riverina representatives, Wade High.



*Back row (L-R) - Billy Adams, Gabriel Abdel-Kattah, Anes Bektas, Ali Moussa, Alessio Benedetti, Anurodh Ojha, Abdulraman Kamara, Rob Butler (manager)*  
*Front row (L-R) - Abbas Dakdouk, Eric Attard, Bojan Srbinovski, Peter Tufevski, Mahmoud Noreldin, Abbas Mousselmani*

Our Platinum class team consisting of Michelle Ding, Cameron McQueen and Carey Chan came third on the day out of 50 teams, which was no mean feat as they are in year 11 and most of the students in this competition were in their HSC year. Their score was also phenomenal, compared to past competitions.

A good time was had by all.

I would like to thank all of the students involved this year who willingly gave up their time in order to learn a new craft and also to represent the school. As usual, they are continuing the legacy of Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus with their professionalism, their commitment and their pursuit of excellence. Once again, we were the highest performing non-private, non-selective school in the region.

Congratulations goes to the following students

### Year 11

Michelle Ding  
 Cameron McQueen  
 Carey Chan  
 Bryan Hwang  
 Christopher Diskoros  
 Vicky He

### Year 12

Jannie Zhang  
 Sherine Indraputri  
 Linda Wang  
 Sabrina Zeng  
 Rozz Godly  
 Candy Lui  
 Hanbin Yu  
 Jennifer Lin  
 Chantal Yu  
 Karolia Qiu  
 Emily Wang  
 Etta Wu

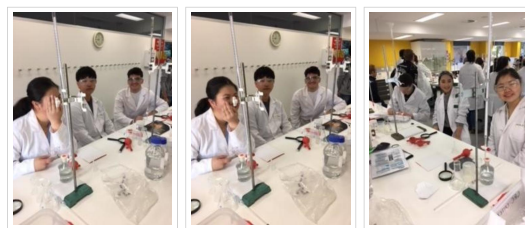
## Science Faculty

### NSW Titration Competition 2018

Every year Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus takes part in the NSW Chemical titration competition to showcase our laboratory-based talents. Students volunteer their own time to learn the precise technical skills including measurement, calculations and hands-on know how, and in doing so spend tens of hours in the laboratory to hone their craft.

On Saturday the 16th of June, 18 of our finest students headed out to Western Sydney University at Macarthur to compete in the regional titration competition. The clock started ticking and the students were off rinsing, mixing, thinking and freaking out. After 1 and a half hours of titrating, measuring, pouring, neutralising, calculating, recalculating and sweating, the competition was over. What a relief. It all went by in a flash.

The students were then engaged in an enjoyable Nyholm Chemistry presentation on The Good, the bad, and the ugly; Natures molecules which was very entertaining. We even managed to get some of our students as volunteers for the show.



**Scott MacKenzie**  
**Head Teacher Science**