



OATLEY SENIOR CAMPUS

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20 December 2018

Principal's Report



Stellar HSC Results

Congratulations to our 2018 Year 12 students who, individually and collectively, performed exceptionally well in the Higher School Certificate (HSC). 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

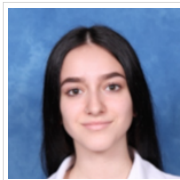
– and more! – to assist students in realising their potential.

School Ranking

In 2018, GRC Oatley Senior Campus moved up 46 places in the school rankings.

Top ATAR

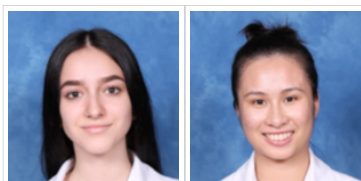
99.4 Irene Katsadima



Premier's Award - All Rounders

These students have received a Band 6 for courses totalling 10 or more units

Irene Katsadima and Amy Trieu

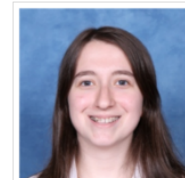


Top Achievers List

Eleftheria Papadopoulou

Modern Greek Extension

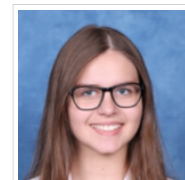
2nd in state



Evangelia Sakerellou
Evangelia Sakerellou

Modern Greek Extension
 Modern Greek Continuers

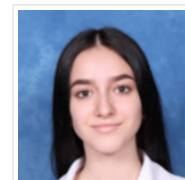
3rd in state
 3rd in state



Irene Katsadima

Modern Greek Continuers

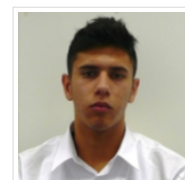
5th in state



Jose Ruiz Restrepo

Spanish Extension

2nd in state

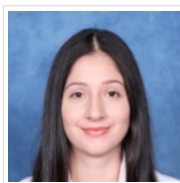


Laura Lopez

Spanish Extension

4th in state

Laura Lopez Spanish Continuers 5th in state



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 Ms Karen Hook, who organised the night and to the Year 12 Year Advisers, Ms Cardillo, Ms Alexiou, Ms Davies, Ms Chang and Ms Good for the support, organisation and guidance they have tirelessly offered this cohort over their years at GRC Oatley.



HT Teaching and Learning

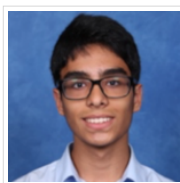
It is with pleasure that I introduce our recently appointed Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. Alexandra Harris is a passionate educator who has extremely high expectations of herself. She has exceptional interpersonal skills combined with integrity and humility. Alexandra's knowledge of educational practices, strategic planning, deep understanding of teaching and learning will be a valuable asset to our school. Please join me in welcoming her to our school community.



2018 Principals' Network Awards Ceremony

I had the pleasure of attending the 2018 Principals' Network Awards Ceremony on Wednesday night and witnessing two of

Karam Yagan Arabic Continuers 2nd in state



HSC Distinguished Achievers List

Band 6 - equivalent to 90% or above in any 2 Unit HSC Course / E4 - 45 out of 50 in any extension HSC course

- 59 students were named on the list.

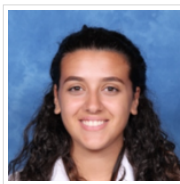
Course Band

There were 585 Band 5 and 6's awarded to students in 2018. These are the top two bands in the HSC.

Major Works Excellence Nominations - HSC Nomination Music 1

Each year our students are nominated for prestigious inclusion in a show-case of HSC major works across the state. From the nomination stage, in a rigorous process, students across the state are selected to show their major works in venues across Sydney and regional areas. To be placed in the final stage is a great honour.

It is with pleasure that I inform our school community that Marianna Gallifuoco has been nominated for possible inclusion in ENCORE, a selection of performances and compositions from Higher School Certificate Music students.



Year 12 End of Year Celebrations

Year 12 Graduation

One of the highlights was last term was the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony which was held at Sydney Town Hall on Friday 28th 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 Georgie Barone, Ms Lynne Mittwollen, Ms Leanne Roberts, Mr Neale Harries and the CAPA staff. They worked tirelessly to prepare the programs, certificates, the performers and prizes.

our wonderful teachers receive awards for their dedication and commitment to public education.

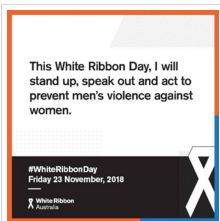
Please join me in congratulating:

- Flora Rossides – Classroom Teacher (Non Executive) Award
- Andrew Bates – Early Career Teacher Award.

Both teachers have demonstrated their outstanding commitment to our students and have shown substantial positive impact on student learning outcomes. It was a pleasure to watch both Flora and Andrew being recognised in front of an audience of 250 people. Thank you to Angela Pryce who played the piano for Ashley James (Year 12) who performed on the night.



White Ribbon Events 2018



This year we proudly joined members of the local community, including police, health care workers, and fellow primary and high school students in the annual Georges River Council White Ribbon March on Friday 23 November.

This event draws attention to the grim, shocking statistic that has been publicised, it seems, ad nauseum, but with little preventative effect: one woman dies at the hands of a loved one – predominately male – each week, in Australia. Domestic violence is no longer a term that adequately describes this. It is murder. Further, there are many women who suffer the brutality of physical and emotional violence, daily living in fear, needing assistance from police and community workers to simply live.

Fifty students from Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus joined the march. I would like to think that at next year's march we can report on a reduction in deaths and acts of violence against women– not an increase.



In addition to this community participation, we hosted our annual White Ribbon Breakfast. 100 guests from the local community joined us at the GRC Oatley Gallery Café to support victims of Domestic Violence and show our support to building

a future free from violence and abuse. Our guest speaker was Mrs Kathy Kelly.

Kathy Kelly is a motivational speaker based in Sydney. Kathy is mum to Thomas and Stuart Kelly. Tragedy struck the Kelly household when in July 2012 on his first night out, Thomas was killed after an unprovoked and fatal attack at Sydney's Kings Cross. Four years later their younger son, Stuart, took his own life. Both boys were 18 years old. Neither should have died.

Dazed and raw from having to turn off Thomas' life support, Kathy and Ralph Kelly were the epitome of courage in their quest for change to make the community safer for all of us. They gathered community support to make significant amendments to the judicial system, to liquor licensing laws, the implementation of the Take Care Safe Space (a preventative program aimed at getting young people home safely from a night out), a victims financial hardship program as well as community education.

On losing their second son, Stuart (July 2016), the family are now focussed on developing leading programs to reduce teenage suicide.

Kathy told an incredibly powerful story of how she turned grief, into anger into determination. In just four years, Kathy has focussed her time on positive community contribution through three key platforms:

1. Advocacy
2. Prevention
3. Education

A massive thank you must go to our VET Hospitality teachers – Mrs Jamieson, Ms Fox and Ms Hook, and Year 11 Hospitality students for designing the menu and cooking us a superb breakfast that you could order in any fine dining Sydney Restaurant.



Year 11 Presentation Day

Last Tuesday was our annual Year 11 Presentation Day Ceremony. It was a fantastic event which showcased the achievements of our students this year. They have worked very hard, many pushing themselves to great heights in areas of creative arts and sports, others have immersed themselves in a full range of activities absorbing the richness of our school's curriculum and some have given outstanding service to our school and community. My sincere congratulations to all award winners. Thank you and congratulations to Ms Georgie Barone and her team who coordinated this important event on our School Calendar.

I would like to acknowledge the massive role our Administrative Staff played in ensuring that our Presentation Day ran successfully. Thank you to Ms Sue Nettleton and her team for their magnificent contribution. Thank you also Mrs Jamieson

and her team of VET staff and students for the wonderful morning tea they provided.

Resumption of School in 2019

A reminder that school resumes for staff only on Tuesday 29 January 2019, students in Year 12 on Wednesday 30 January at 9.40 am 2019 and students in Year 11 on Thursday 31 January 2019 at 8.40 am.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

As this will be the final edition of our newsletter for 2018, I would like to take this opportunity to wish our staff, students and school community a very Merry Christmas and a safe and restful New Year break. Thank you for the tremendous support you have all provided to our fabulous school throughout the year. I look forward to seeing everyone in Term 1 for an action-packed 2019.

Anna Girginis
Principal

Support Unit Report

On Thursday the 20th of September, families from our support unit, both past and current, gathered at Oatley RSL for dinner. The dinner was designed to introduce parents and allow our students time to socialise away from the school environment.

Many families often feel isolated when they are making the big transition from senior school to their post school options. Students have an increased level of anxiety when they realise that school being their safe place and a constant part of their routine over the last 13 years, is coming to an end.

The dinner helped families to meet each other, exchange contact numbers and hopefully keep in touch for many years to come.

A huge thankyou to all the families and staff that attended the night including our Principal, Mrs Girginis. Thank you to Oatley RSL who allowed us to use their function room free of charge so that our families could move around and communicate in a private space. Once again The Oat Mill Brasserie were just wonderful in allowing us to organise the space to meet the needs of our students and serve us delicious meals.

It is wonderful to have our school situated in such a supportive local community.



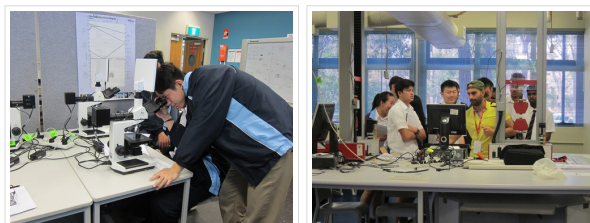
Priscilla Wille
Head Teacher Special Education

TAS Report

Year 12 Engineering Studies students attended the Engineering Studies Day that was organised by the Faculty of Engineering

and Information Sciences at the University of Wollongong on the 1st November 2018. Student visited different departments to gain insight for their HSC course work and joined the activities as follows:

- Material Engineering – demonstrate tensile testing of material, hardness of annealed and cold worked steel and use the optical microscope to scan the microstructure of medium carbon steel
- Civil Engineering – determine ultimate load carrying capacity and load-deflection curve of a model concrete slab under static vertical load
- Environmental Engineering – how to treat dirty water to clean water by jar testing
- Mechatronic Engineering – control the robot with Arduino Nano microcontroller
- Mining engineering – use the virtual reality goggles to go into the mine, find the change of CO2 and rectify the problem so students can search for the missing miner and rescue him
- Electrical Engineering – program an E-Chord on the Instashred Guitar LED by Arduino Nano
- Biomedical Engineering – design and make a low-cost prosthetic hand with an effective pinch gesture.



Mr Ho Leung
Engineering Studies Teacher – TAS Faculty

TELL (Teaching English Language Learners) Program Report

This year 16 staff members from across all GRC Campuses, from all different subject areas, have been participating in professional learning to help them better support our students who have recently arrived in Australia. The program involved meeting together for six sessions, starting in Term 1 and ending at the beginning of Term 4, and completing various assignments and readings in between each session.

The staff learnt about differentiating their classroom practice in the areas of speaking, reading and writing in order to support and help new arrivals. There was many lively discussions and activities completed to help the teachers understand how hard it can be for students trying to learn English and fit in to their new lives in Australia. They learnt that even small changes, such as writing new vocabulary on the board or adding visual glossaries to already used vocabulary sheets can make a huge difference.

The final task involved each teacher presenting to the group about an activity or strategy they had tried in their class and how it had helped their students. Many amazing ideas were

shared from a variety of different subjects, with some teachers creating entire units of work to support their students and others reflecting upon their day-to-day teaching and changing the way they related to their students. Most teachers found that incorporating EAL/D teaching strategies in their class not only improved the learning of the EAL/D students but it was helpful for all of the students in the class.

The TELL program is a NSW Department of Education initiative that provides teachers with 24 hours of professional learning, each of our staff completed the course in their own time, staying back after school for several hours throughout the year. They volunteered for the program and committed themselves to completing all of the sessions and assignments. Their enthusiasm and drive to become better teachers and support the learning of our students is what our school is about.

Peta La Motte
EAL/D Teacher
TELL Program Co-ordinator

SRC Report

Carinya Activities Day

Year 11 SRC students went to Carinya Public School on Friday the 16th of November as part of the Leadership By the River project. The Leadership By the River program allowed students from the two schools to collaborate on a community-based project. Our students helped promote Carinya's three new school values, which include **be your best, be safe and be kind**.

The GRC team met with the Carinya team to plan activities for the day. They set up equipment and supervised each of the outdoor activities, such as throwing javelins, egg and spoon races, relays, sprints, throwing balls at targets and obstacle courses in a jumping castle, for the **"do your best"** school value. Classes from Carinya rotated through a number of different sessions, finishing up with the outdoor activities followed by a BBQ.

The GRC Oatley team for the day were Jack, Claire, Jaydan, Koy, Brian, Kris, Rithysak, Vivian, Mikashan, Ashley and Danish who were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Their enthusiasm and genuine interest in the students from Carinya were acknowledged by the Principal and members of the school staff.

Danish Baig
Year 11



Careers Feature

The Beyond School Study Guide has been developed by the Australian Govt and is an excellent resource to assist students and parents to figure out study options and financial assistance along the way.



The Careers Advisory Service is open for students and parents after the release of HSC results and ATARs. The website also has easy to access information for school leavers.

Penny Morrison
Careers Adviser
Ph: 8567 3744

The Wishing Tree Appeal

In 2018, we participated in the 'Wishing Tree Appeal', a collaboration between the Salvation Army and Kmart.

The Wishing Tree Appeal is Australia's largest and longest running Christmas gift Appeal. Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Australian community, the Appeal has raised more than 8 million gifts that have been distributed to those in need. In 2017, the Appeal successfully collected more than 300,000 gifts.

This year we asked staff students and their families to donate a gift to the 'Wishing Tree Appeal' up to the value of \$20. Gifts were delivered to our front office. We were overwhelmed with the number of gifts we received and the number of our families and staff that supported this drive.

This initiative was a great way to help make Christmas a time for celebration for all people in our community, particularly those who are less fortunate or are doing it tough over the holiday period.

Jess Davies
Head Teacher Wellbeing (Rel.)

