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5 July 2019

Principal's Report



Vocational Education and Training Awards

It is with excitement that I inform the school community that Georges River College Oatley Senior Campus has been nominated for a Vocational Education and Training Award in the category of 'School of the Year'. This nomination recognises the

school for our excellence and commitment to Vocational Education and Training.

Not only have we been recognised as a school, but also eight of our students will be presented VET awards at Bankstown Sports Club on Monday 19th August. Awardees are as follows:

- Jeremy Alysandratos
- Michael Campagna
- Costa Ilioglou
- Xanthe Ingamells
- Stephanie Keremelevska
- Julie Khuyag
- Vivian Liang
- Erin-Rose Wardrop

NSW training Awards, South and Southern Western Sydney

A huge congratulations to our Year 12 student, **Lucy Murphy** for being nominated as a finalist for the NSW Training Awards, South and Southern Western Sydney.

We are so excited for Lucy! In addition to this, Lucy has now successfully completed her course work and worked far more than her required traineeship hours. As a result, Lucy has been hired as a casual employee. Lucy has been a great ambassador for our school and her recognition is well deserved.



Spirit Week

In week 7, the Year 11 SRC organised our Inaugural Spirit Week at GRC Oatley Senior Campus.

Spirit Week comprised of a series of activities designed for enjoyment, to create school spirit and raise funds for future SRC projects.

Our SRC was heavily involved in the project planning and implementation of the activities during the week. Their efforts and commitment were outstanding and played a vital component towards the success of this initiative.

I continue to marvel at the contribution our SRC makes to our school and once again celebrate the importance of a student voice and the connection they make with our staff and the wider school community. Congratulations to all students who participated and to Ms Straney for coordinating the events for the week.

Parent Teacher Night

Our Year 11 Parent Teacher Evening was held this week and I would like to thank all the parents and staff who have given up their evening to attend this valuable event. It is evident that our parents are aware of the importance of these evenings with the large number of bookings. There is much supporting evidence that shows positive communication between parents and teachers helps improve students' academic performance. By attending these evenings your child sees the importance you

place on their learning and not just their marks that you could easily access from the semester reports they bring home.

These evenings are a great opportunity for parents to communicate with their child's teacher and hear how they are progressing not just academically but also socially. It is also a great way to discuss any troubles or questions you may have regarding your child with their Student Adviser, Head Teacher Wellbeing or their classroom teacher.

As I spoke with parents and caregivers throughout the evening, their feedback was very positive – complementing 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.

We look forward to continued dialogue between parents and teachers and working closely to help with the learning of all students.

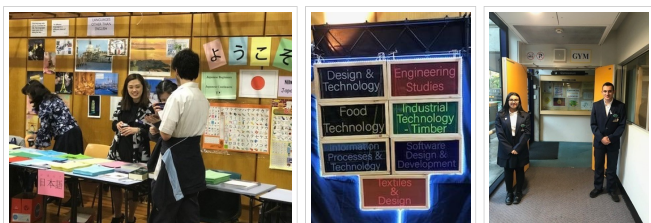
Subject Information Nights / Curriculum Expo

We are at that time of year again where year 10 students select subjects for the Preliminary and HSC years in order to complete a Higher School Certificate in 2020 – 2021. Understanding the complexities, rules, regulations and available choices is a minefield.

In order to assist with this process, last week 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. Early in Term 3, Year 10 students will be required to make their subject choices for Year 11 2020. This is a very important decision and students must investigate all their options and think about their preferred career paths. It is important for them to make the right choices for the courses they will be expected to study for the next two years, especially for their wellbeing and performance.

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 have not been addressed at our forums.

Year 11 2020 enrolments are now open. Please tell neighbours or family who are seeking enrolment to get their applications in as soon as possible.



Principals' Conference

In Week 7, I had the pleasure of attending the NSW Secondary Principals' Annual Conference in Manly.

Amongst the many keynote speakers at the conference was our new Education Minister Ms Sarah Mitchell, who showed

that she was keen to listen to all stakeholders in the education process. Ms Mitchell also very proudly pointed out that she was a successful graduate of Public Education as an alumni of Gunnedah High School.

On Day 1, we heard from Mr Pasi Sahlberg and Mr Adrian Piccoli from the Gonski Institute at UNSW, Ms Jane Caro presented on 'Anxiety, Expectations and Control' and Mr Eddie Woo, who had 360 principals in the palm of his hand as he presented how mathematics can 'Get to the Heart – Teaching for Disposition'.

On Day 2, Dr Judy Willis presented 'How emotion impacts the brain's successful learning and what to do about it' and I took my first real sojourn into neuro plasticity. One of her quotes that resonated with me was "Teaching isn't brain surgery – it's harder! And I've done both". We also heard from Professor John Fischetti, Head of School at the University of Newcastle, who presented 'A Different Kind of Teacher for a Different Kind of School'.

Uniform Audit

We do want students to be warm in winter. Together with the school's P&C, we have accommodated this with plenty of options for students to wear in the coming months. The school's jacket and /or jumper worn over the school's white shirts with a white undershirt are provided for wind and cold protection. As well, there are GRC scarves should the weather turn nasty. Hoodies are not part of the uniform. Please be aware that these items will be confiscated, daily - to be returned by the end of the day – and your support of this position would be very much appreciated.

For any student who is out of uniform, please be aware that a range of warm alternatives will be offered and can be worn, if students choose to do so.

Can I thank the community for their ongoing support of the school's stance on uniform.

Please Note:

When purchasing school shoes, please be aware that **ONLY black leather lace-up shoes are acceptable**. This is a requirement in the interest of safety. Any other advice from shoe stores is incorrect.



NO ballet flats, Mary Jane style shoes, 'Rabens', boots, or joggers.

From School Uniforms in NSW Government Schools (2004, updated 2018):

Under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act) the Department of Education (DoE) must ensure that students are not exposed to risks to their health or safety while they are on Departmental premises. At GRC Oatley Senior Campus, this means wearing enclosed leather footwear.

Diary Dates – Term 3

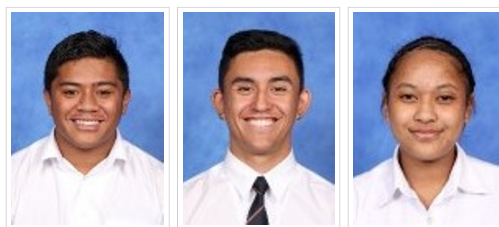
- 22nd July School Development Day – Staff only
- 23rd July Students return to school
HSC Minimum Standards Information Evening
- 29th July P&C Meeting
- 5th August CAPA Showcase
- 6th August CAPA Showcase
- 7th August CAPA Showcase
- 9th August Year 11 (2020) Applications Due
- 12th – 30th August HSC Trial Examinations
- 26th August P&C Meeting
- 5th September Art Exhibition
- 10th September Induction of Year 12 SRC (2020)
- 23rd September Year 12 reports distributed
- 16th – 26th Sept. Year 12 Graduation Rehearsal (Compulsory attendance)
P&C Meeting
Year 11 Yearly Examinations

Anna Girginis
Principal

NRL Pacific Youth Summit

In the lead up to the Pacific Test Invitational on June 22nd at Leichhardt Oval, four GRC Oatley students, Jonty Tekaha, Ezra Faatoia-Muaiava, Cassius Mohi and Marianne Finau, were personally selected by a panel to attend the NRL Pacific Youth Summit. The theme 'Awaken the Warrior' is designed to lead and inspire Pasifika youth by gaining a series of learning experiences and empowering them to become responsible leaders in their schools, Rugby League clubs and the wider community.

Former NRL player and now NRL Community Engagement Officer Joe Galuvao, states "Our outcome is that they will be able to see within themselves the power they have to make change and that's not only within themselves but in their communities. If anything that's what we want, we want to show our young people that they're our future and it starts from them."



<https://youtu.be/354CaikXKn4>

HSIE Report

Business Studies Year 11

Students in Preliminary Business Studies and guests from our Junior School, Hurstville Boys Campus, completed a practical lesson in the importance of a Business Plan in our current topic Business Planning.

Students were given a goal – to create the fastest and most durable vehicle – a forecast of when it was to be complete. In their race teams, students had a stressful 15 minutes to organise task responsibilities, car design, company logos, estimated construction costs and race times.

During the construction stage, where students were given a tight deadline of 30 minutes to construct their vehicles (much to the vexation of the students) Ms Flavell added another layer of difficulty - no instructions. Soon enough, the teams' prior assumptions and dreams of grandeur of building Paganis, Ferraris and Lamborghinis were incongruent to the materials they were presented with throwing their business plans (or lack of) into utter chaos.

Once time was called, the teams headed to the race track – the linoleum floor of the cafeteria – to race for pink slips (little did the students know that the worksheets they would be completing following this activity were coloured in pink!). Lining up to race the best of three, the assigned drivers took their marks and released their vehicles.

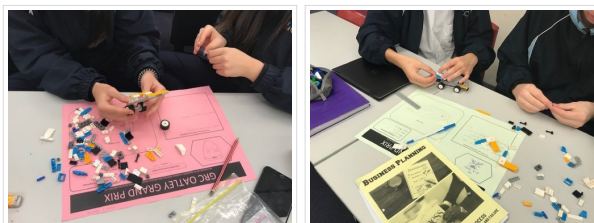
Ultimately, the victorious teams consisted of:

- Benson, Christian and Rahul (11 BS-D)
- Ibrahim, Adam, Cody and Andre (11 BS-C)
- Reyann and Desmond (11 BS-C)

Commiserations to the following vehicles who crashed beyond repair on race day:

- Najee, Patrick and Afan (11 BS-D)
- Lleyton, Finn, Hassan, Zane and Nikola (11 BS-C)

This activity complemented our utilisation of ALARM as a learning matrix. Students reflected on the activity using I.D.E.A. and consolidating the significance of the matrix to the learning we promote within our school.



Ms Flavell
HSIE Classroom Teacher

CAPA Report

GRC STAGE BAND TOUR

Recently, the GRC Stage Band participated in their annual tour to Port Macquarie for the Big Band Blast. They had a fantastic time and can't wait to go back again next year!

The students attended 3 days of workshops, performances, demonstrations, parades and musical activities. They were able to gain some unique experiences such as a behind-the-scenes audio demonstration, a private workshop with John Morrison and a New Orleans style street parade.

Jeremy Hockings (Year 11) was selected to present a piece for a vocal masterclass with renowned jazz singer Jacki Cooper.

Many thanks to Mrs Pryce for organising the tour and to Mr Gerrard for accompanying the students as well.



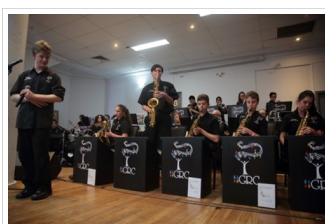
Private workshop with John Morrison



Jeremy Hockings in Vocal Masterclass (Bill Risby: Piano, Nat Risby: bass)



GRC on parade

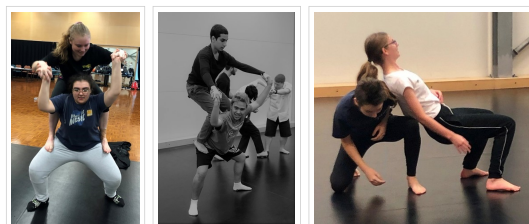


GRC COMBINED CONCERT BAND REHEARSALS: Monday 1st July
Tuesday 23rd July
4.00pm – 5.30pm, Oatley Campus. All players welcome.

DRAMA – PHYSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOPS

Recently, drama students in Years 11 and 12 participated in a day of physical theatre workshops with 'Legs on the Wall', a Sydney based movement and theatre company.

Students learned to move their bodies in a variety of ways, as well as the principals of tension, balance and contact. These workshops will give students inspiration in their self-devised pieces to explore physicality in new ways.



<http://www.youtube.com/embed/lg1rxnvf7q4?rel=0&wmode=transparent>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lg1rxnvf7q4>

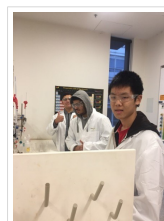
Science Report

Titration competition

On Saturday 15th June, 15 students from GRC Oatley Senior Campus went to the UNSW to participate in the NSW schools Titration Competition. All of us enjoyed the time at UNSW. It was fun participating titration in a more confined environment compared to school where all the team members were spread out. Titration involved using fine chemical techniques to measure and calculate the concentration of an unknown substance.

My team members Jordan, Jackson and I were able to get 2nd place in this competition. I achieved a score of 1, which is nearly a perfect score (0) in this competition. The lower score the better, so that was a great achievement for me and overall our team scored between 100 and 200 points. After the results were announced we were given a small card which contained the current Periodic Table and a pen which has a logo of UNSW. My team and I were surprised by our result as we never expected to come 2nd in this competition. Overall it was a fun day and everyone enjoyed the time we spent at the UNSW during the competition. We are looking forward to competing again next year.

Dheeraj, Jordan, Jackson, year 11



Support Report

This year is flying by and it is hard to believe that we are nearly at the end of Term 2. All the students in the Support Unit have been working exceptionally hard and are producing some wonderful work. Some of the students are enjoying working in mainstream classes and are delivering some amazing work and impressing their teachers.

The support unit is a close knit family and we spend a lot of our time learning about life and spending time out in the community. This term the students from the Support Unit have just completed the Surf Awareness program. The Blue and Red class get together each week to do PE and particularly enjoy going to the gym to burn off that extra energy and show off their skills.

The Green and Blue classes often combine to go out for community access and love when they get to do some dancing together in the afternoons. The Red class have been working hard out on work experience and gaining some skills that will serve them well post school.

A quick update on the other members of the Support Unit family, our turtles are growing and welcome the students and teachers at the front of the tank each morning. The Bearded Dragons are also growing and are about to hibernate for the colder months of the year.



SRC Report

SRC Leadership Team

Our school leadership team – School Captains Jack Appleby and Claire Larkin, and Vice Captains Rithysak Yous and Ella-Rose Liasides – had the privilege of representing GRC Oatley Campus at a Parliament House Leaders Lunch with our local NSW MP, Mr Mark Coure. Our leadership team learnt about the workings of Parliament House and were able to spend time with Mr Coure.



GRC SRC Conference – 20th June 2019

In June our SRC attended the GRC SRC Conference. Some of the sessions covered concepts relating to 'breaking down boundaries', 'developing confidence' and 'improvising in difficult situations'. Students discussed the successes that they've had as an SRC in their respective campuses and the

barriers that can emerge. The first conference will serve to set the groundwork from which the College SRC can work together on common leadership goals over the coming years.



Spirit Week

Spirit week! Where do I start?

In week 7, it was time for the Year 11 SRC members to execute the school project they have been working on since Term 1. Our idea was to orchestrate a week designated to boosting the morale of the school. Being a year 11-12 campus, it can get really stressful as the main goal is to focus and excel and work towards our Year 11 ROSA and the HSC. So, we decided that our initiative "Spirit Week" was to have a week that consisted of a Donut Day, Quiz Day (where we played kahoot as a whole school) and to top it all off, we designed weekly challenges that required house groups to work together to complete "The GRC Oatley Amazing Race".

Day 1 launched off a Lolly guessing competition and of course, we sold everyone's favourite Krispy Kreme Doughnuts! The SRC members of year 11 & 12 took the initiative of selling doughnuts on level two and successfully managed to sell more than 700 doughnuts to sugar-ravished Oatley students. Everyone was bonding over sugary delights, thus you could feel the spirit of sharing in the air, as we witnessed students buying whole boxes for their group of friends and whoever else wanted!

A trio of challenges was held in the canteen in break 2 for the Amazing Race competitors, where a group of year 11 & 12 representatives were to meet. The challenges were:

- (1) Name the Historical Figure, where house representatives from each team needed to name the picture of three historical figures.
- (2) Transfer the M&M's, where members needed to transfer as many M&M's as they can from one bowl to another using a straw in only two minutes.
- (3) The Longest Plank, with the highest score of 6 minutes and 20 seconds!

Day 1 was a huge success and got Oatley students and Amazing Race competitors hungry for more.

Now, for day 2! The whole school got to participate in a GRC facts kahoot, where students got to learn fun facts about their teachers, our school, and fun facts about our world.

Day 3 was our mufti day and it was almost the end of a fun-filled week! It was amazing to see the morale of our school as our students participated in fun-filled activities throughout the day! Our Amazing Race competitors participated in a

basketball shootout, counting towards house points with those who scored the most hoops winning a State of Origin football! Go the Blues.

Sadly Spirit Week had to end and it ended with a bang! We finished it off with an Amazing Race challenge, that everyone got to participate in, watch and enjoy as we cheer for our students!

The week was a success and it is definitely something that both the staff and students enjoyed. The morale of our school was on a major high and we look forward to doing this day again!

Written by Valandou & Barbara



Dear parents, guardians and carers

Re: Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)

Every year, all schools in Australia participate in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD). The NCCD process requires schools to identify information already available in the school about supports provided to students with disability. These relate to legislative requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *Disability Standards for Education 2005*, in line with the *NCCD guidelines (2019)*.

Information provided about students to the Australian Government for the NCCD includes:

- year of schooling
- category of disability: physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional
- level of adjustment provided: support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive.

This information assists schools to:

- formally recognise the supports and adjustments provided to students with disability in schools
- consider how they can strengthen the support of students with disability in schools
- develop shared practices so that they can review their learning programs in order to improve educational outcomes for students with disability.

The NCCD provides state and federal governments with the information they need to plan more broadly for the support of students with disability.

The NCCD will have no direct impact on your child and your child will not be involved in any testing process. The school will provide data to the Australian Government in such a way that no individual student will be able to be identified – the privacy and confidentiality of all students is ensured. All information is protected by privacy laws that regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. To find out more about these matters, please refer to the [Australian Government's Privacy Policy \(https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy\)](https://www.education.gov.au/privacy-policy).

Further information about the NCCD can be found on the [NCCD Portal \(https://www.nccd.edu.au\)](https://www.nccd.edu.au).

If you have any questions about the NCCD, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Principal

Parent Information



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HSC minimum standard Information for parents and carers

What is the HSC minimum standard?

The HSC minimum standard was created to help ensure that students have the key literacy and numeracy skills for life after school. Students in New South Wales will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC credential from 2020.

The HSC minimum standard is set at level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). These skills are essential for everyday tasks and learning after school such as writing a letter for a job application or understanding a mobile phone plan.

The standard is assessed through online tests across three areas: reading, writing and numeracy.

The minimum standard online tests are 45 minutes long and include a multiple choice reading test, a multiple choice numeracy test and a short writing test based on a choice between a visual or written prompt.

Examples of the tests are available on the [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\) website](https://www.nesa.nsw.edu.au). Practice tests are available for students to sit at school to help them become familiar with the online test structure and for schools to help determine student readiness to meet the minimum standard.

Who needs to complete HSC minimum standard online tests?

Students who are completing the HSC in 2019 do not need to sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online tests.

Students who complete the HSC in 2020:

- Students who are completing the HSC in 2020 and achieved a Band 8 or above in Reading, Writing and Numeracy in their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN results, do not need to sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online test.
- Students who did not achieve a Band 8 in any one of the 3 areas of their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN, but who have subsequently sat and achieved level 3 in the corresponding HSC minimum standard online tests in 2018 or 2019, have met the standard.

- Students who did not achieve a Band 8 in any one of the 3 areas of their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN, and have not yet sat the HSC minimum standard online tests must sit the tests in 2019, 2020 or during the first few years after school.

Students who will complete the HSC in 2021 and beyond:

All students must sit the NESA HSC minimum standard online tests in reading, writing and numeracy.

When can students take the HSC minimum standard online tests and who will administer them?

Students will have two opportunities per year to sit the HSC minimum standard online tests in each area of Reading, Numeracy and Writing, in Year 10, 11 and 12.

The tests must be administered by schools via a lockdown browser.

Students will also have up to 5 years from the time they start the HSC courses to sit the minimum standard online tests.

Disability provisions and exemptions:

Students with additional learning needs may be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standard online tests or be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard in order to receive their HSC. Parents should contact the school to find out more information.

Life Skills courses are designed to provide an equitable pathway to the HSC. Students taking four or more Life Skills courses can be exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard. Please contact your school for more information.

Further Information

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)
<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard>

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