

Homebush Boys High School

The collage features 15 distinct images. At the top left is a stylized, high-contrast portrait of a young man. To its right is a group photo of five students in maroon uniforms. Below these are three smaller images: two students working at a table, a student swimming in a pool, and a student writing at a desk. The middle row includes a student smiling in a classroom, a group of five students and staff standing together, and a student in a computer lab. The bottom row shows a student playing guitar, a student in a workshop, a student in a classroom, and a student in a workshop. The bottom right corner contains the school's name in large, bold, maroon letters and its crest.

HOMEBUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL



EDUCATION WEEK 2020
AUGUST 3-7, 2020

Principal Mr Kevin Elgood

We are about to reach the halfway mark of Term 3, still in the middle of COVID restrictions but always continuing our focus on high quality learning experiences for all students.



COVID -19

The safety of students, staff and the school community is our highest priority, to help ensure safety of everyone the COVID-19 safe message for all of us continues to be:



- stay at home if you are not well and get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms,
- regularly wash your hands,
- cough or sneeze into your elbow,
- avoid touching your face.

While we are explicit with stressing social distancing guidelines with our students on a constant basis, the very real and confusing fact for students is that these guidelines do not apply to them while they are on school grounds. However, once they exit the school they are expected to comply with these guidelines on the footpaths, at the train station and on the trains and buses, to and from school. Please remind your sons that they must comply with these guidelines. Your support is greatly appreciated at this time, as there have been a number of concerned community members who have raised this issue with the school since we returned for Term 3.

School Uniform

As the cold weather continues, a reminder that Homebush Boys High School has plenty of school uniform options for our students to keep warm and well.

The school jacket and/or jumper worn over the school's shirt with a white undershirt (if required) are perfect protection for wind and cold. All boys should be wearing ties. There are also HBHS scarves and beanies available for purchase. The school diaries clearly list the school uniform requirements.

Hoodies and tracksuit pants are not part of our uniform and should not be worn.

Once again, thank you to all families for your support in ensuring our school uniform is strictly adhered to.

Year Updates

Some of the important activities happening in your son's Year include:

- Year 12 – Students are currently in the middle of their HSC Trial Exam period, I wish all Year 12 students success in these exams. The HSC Presiding Officer has been engaged to conduct these examinations and will implement the same guidelines that the boys will have for the HSC. This is to assist them with being familiar with his management of examinations and all the required HSC examination procedures. They will return next week to concentrate on using the feedback from their Trials to improve their performance for the HSC examinations and their final task to complete all course content. Unfortunately the COVID restrictions will impact significantly on our ability to run a Graduation assembly and Formal but we are currently looking at our options and will try to keep you informed as the end of the term nears.
- Year 11 – Students are in the final weeks of their Preliminary Course and will soon commence their final preliminary course exams.
- Year 10 – Students have made their subject selections for Year 11 2021 and our timetable team headed by Mr Achmad and Mr Howard is currently finalising student selections and preparing to begin forming subject lines for the 2021 timetable. Students were provided with a comprehensive subject information booklet, an opportunity to hear about each course at our Subject Market Day and online video presentations for students and parents to view at home. At Homebush Boys High School we pride ourselves on the breadth of curriculum we are able to offer in both the mandatory and elective spheres. It has been encouraging to see Year 10 students carefully read the information provided and seek advice from Head Teachers and teachers, their most valuable resource. Students appear to have followed our advice in selecting subjects that genuinely are of interest and that they think they would be good at. This best practice will ultimately lead to enjoyment, satisfaction and good results.
- Year 9 – Students continue to work hard, some harder than others! All boys should be concentrating on their literacy and numeracy work in preparation for the Minimum Standards tests next year.
- Year 8 – elective selections for Year 9 2021 are almost finalised. Students were provided with a comprehensive elective course information booklet and an opportunity to hear about each course from during lessons prior to the selection day.
- Year 7 – Students are certainly settled in after the COVID break and most are working well. Remember – studies show that 30 minutes of reading every night makes a significant difference to HSC results at the end of Year 12.

If you are a user of Facebook or Twitter I hope that you have noticed some of the amazing activities happening around the school. Ms Player has been ensuring that our social media presence is very strong. I thank you for taking the time to read this edition of the Bush Bulletin. I hope you stay safe and healthy throughout this difficult time.

Ms Catherine Player

Deputy Principal (Year 7 & 10)

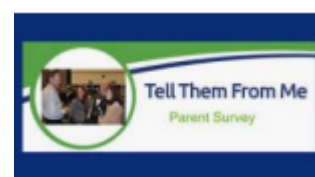
Year 11 2021 Subject Selection:

At the beginning of the term we ran the Subject Selection Market Day to help Year 10 get a better understanding of the subjects available to them for the Senior Study pathway. Organised by Mr Achmad and Mr Howard, the students attended an information session in the hall followed by round robin workshops with all the faculties. Students also had access to extended information on Moodle so they could refer back to it throughout the process. By all accounts from the student group leaders, the workshops were informative and helped them make more informed decisions about their choices. The students also had workshops in their career classes where they had the opportunity to ask more questions to ensure they were meeting the requirements for a HSC and an ATAR, and fully understood the subjects they were choosing. The choices are now being reviewed by the curriculum committee and students may be interviewed if required. All in all it was a very informative process. Thank you to Mr Achmad and Mr Howard for all their hard work and organisation.



Tell Them from Me Parent Surveys:

At Homebush Boys High school, we value our school community and encourage feedback and parent voice. The Tell Them From Me surveys help us to capture the voice of our entire school community to guide school planning. Feedback from parents and caregivers, teachers and students provides an accurate and complete picture of our school climate and culture. The Tell Them From Me Parent Survey can aid in strengthening parent, teacher and school collaboration by providing our school with a deeper understanding of our parents' perceptions of their child's experiences at home and at HBHS.



The parent survey provides the Principal, Mr Elgood and our school leaders, with parents' perspectives on our school as well as learning at home. Communication between parents and staff, activities and practices at home, and parent views on the school's support of learning and behaviour help build an accurate and timely picture that our school can use for practical improvements. The survey data can help our school:

- understand parents' perspectives on their children's experience at school, including teaching, communication and the school's support of learning and behaviour
- understand parents' perspectives on activities and practices at home related to their children's learning

- engage the school community in discussions to identify strategic directions for school improvement
- establish quantitative improvement measures and help schools track achievement against them

The survey is anonymous, voluntary and easy to use, is held once a year in Term 3 and is available in multiple languages. It is conducted entirely online on computers, tablets, iPads or smartphones during the specific survey window.

The survey window for parents runs from Monday 10th August – Friday 23rd October

The link is:

<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/hbhs2020>

I encourage all parents to go online and complete the survey.

HBHS Social Media:

We have been working hard to update and expand the daily content on our Facebook and Twitter pages. Please check these out to see daily events at the school, learning in action and acknowledgements and celebrations of the amazing things happening at HBHS. We can be found at:



Homebush Boys High School



@homebushbhs

Mr Syarief Achmad

Deputy Principal (Year 8 & 11)



At the midpoint of the term, Semester 2 is well and truly underway. I've enjoyed the range of activities our students have been involved in and their determination to improve on their performance in Semester 1. Below are a few highlights from the term so far.

Year 8

Year 8 had their Subject Selection Information Assembly on Monday 3rd August, where they received information about selecting their two electives for Year 9 and 10. Students received advice about choosing subjects and key considerations for elective courses. During the week they were also presented with specific subject information by faculty representatives in class, to help them with their decision. We are currently reviewing student selections and will be interviewing students who were not able to receive their preferences.

Year 11

Term 3 is a very important term for Year 11, especially with their Preliminary Examinations just around the corner. It is vital that Year 11 maintain their attendance, are punctual and attend school in full school uniform each day. If a student is unable to attend on the due date of an assessment task, it is important that they follow the Illness & Misadventure procedures outlined in their assessment booklet.

Year 11 students have started the process to identify and elect the Prefect Body for 2020/2021. Students are currently undertaking a rigorous application process and are being interviewed to determine their suitability to progress to the next stage. Voting will soon open for Year 11 and staff via Moodle. I'd like to thank Mrs Papavramidis and Ms Player for their organisation and support of the Prefect application process.

During the fortnightly Year 11 assemblies I have been working with Mrs Kumaralingam and Ms Karas to organise guest speakers to support the cohort. On Thursday 30th July, Kate Fitzsimons delivered a timely presentation on resilience to Year 11. Kate is a youth resilience expert who has helped thousands of teens, teachers and parents build resilience in a way that is inspiring, practical and impactful. She was able to give our students strategies to adapt and overcome the unpredictable challenges of modern times.



On Thursday 13th August, Mr Bawden delivered a fantastic presentation to the cohort on the use of ALARM (A Learning and Responding Matrix). Students were guided in the use of ALARM to respond to different types of HSC questions, in both short and longer formats. Staff at HBHS have been professionally developed in using ALARM and it is something students will be exposed to in a vast majority of their subject areas. This will significantly help improve their writing and ability to address higher order HSC verbs.



TAFE Peer Literacy Reading Program

In 2019, a number of our current Year 11 students were involved in the TAFE Peer Literacy Reading Program. These students were presented with their TAFE accreditation for successfully completing the program. The program required students to tutor Year 7 and 8 students who experienced difficulty with reading. It also allowed our senior students to develop a strong mentoring role with our juniors. I'd like to thank the students for their involvement in such an important school program and also Mrs Symonds for her organisation and support of this highly valued program at HBHS.



Mrs Anna Paleothodoros Deputy Principal (Year 9 & 12)



Year 12 Term 3 Update



Term 3 began with School Photo Day and it was great to see Year 12 students in full school uniform and with a positive attitude towards their learning. Their Year 12 School Jackets and blazers set them apart. Wearing their school uniform with pride reflects the positive ethos of the school and enables the younger students to aspire to be like their positive Year 12 role models. I am proud of their achievements and milestones so far, in such unprecedented times.

The **Year 12 Assembly in Week 2** focused on the importance of study organisation, preparation and wellbeing. Students were issued with their new exam timetable and exam requirements and the school counsellors Ms Gudgeon and Ms Gane provided the students with support materials on various organisations (listed below) that can assist them if they require further support outside the school.

- **KidsHelpline-** <https://kidshelpline.com.au/>
- **Headspace-** <https://headspace.org.au/>
- **ehedspace-** <https://headspace.org.au/>
- **ReachOut-** www.reachout.com
- **Youth Beyond Blue -** www.youthbeyondblue.com
- **Bite Back-** www.biteback.org.au



The **Year 12 Graduation Committee** are meeting to further discuss the organisation and date of the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony as COVID-19 restrictions still apply for Term 3. Further advice and discussion will be taking place also for the Year 12 Formal and Year 12 students and parents will be notified as soon as possible about these important events once the decisions are finalised.

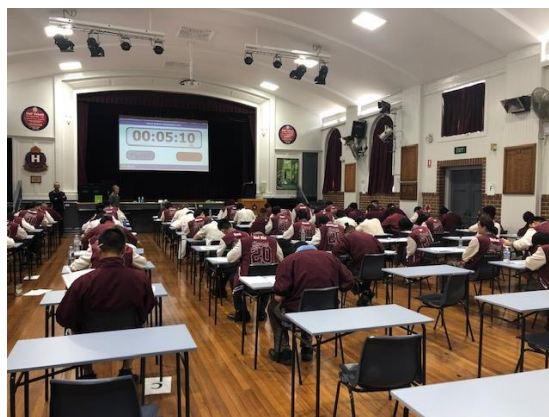
Year 12 Hospitality students and Ms Houvardas invited the Senior Executive to a magnificent feast which showcased their wonderful skills and talents required for their Major Cluster Assessment Task. Students were required to use and adapt various recipes and employ more sophisticated preparation and presentation skills that they have developed throughout their two-year Hospitality journey. It was

great to see how these young men have grown in confidence and experience and are well on their way in achieving success in their Hospitality Course.



Year 12 HSC Trial Examinations

The Year 12 HSC Trial Examinations are currently being held during Weeks 4 and 5 this term and have gone quite smoothly. There were very few students absent for their examinations and students at this stage have found, overall, the examinations quite fair and not too stressful. Year 12 students are required to turn up to their examinations at least 30 minutes before it starts, to give them the opportunity to hand in their mobile phones to the Administration Office and to settle before the examination.



If a student is absent for an examination, they are required to ring the school on the day to inform either the Deputy Principal (Mrs Paleothodoros) or the Head Teacher in charge of the examination. They must fill out an Illness and Misadventure form found in their Year 12 Assessment booklet and see a doctor on the day of their exam. This form must be given to the Deputy Principal as soon as possible so that further arrangements can be made. Please ring the school to speak to Mrs Paleothodoros if you have any questions about the process.

Year 9

Year 9 students have generally settled into Term 3 better after the holidays and they seem to be more engaged in their learning. Food Technology students have been cooking up a storm and it was a very pleasant surprise during one of our meetings that Muhammad Chami from Ms Bolbol's Year 9 Food Technology class offered us some wonderful savoury delights just before morning tea. It was exactly what was required with a hot cup of coffee. We thank Ms Bolbol and the whole Year 9 Food Technology class for their efforts, and it is these kind gestures that make this school such a wonderful place.



I came to visit Ms Cuneen's Year 9 Physical Activities and Sports Studies class as well this week and I was proud to see how engaged all the students were in their learning. The competitive nature of the Futsal matches were inspiring and the skills and athleticism of all the students were on show. It is great to see Year 9 in such a positive learning environment. Well done to Ms Cuneen and her Year 9 PASS class.



Ms Georgia Anton Career Adviser



SKILLS AND THRILLS

The Career Adviser has registered HBHS for the Digital Parents Showcase. This will highlight the demand growth in various areas such as trades, technology, health and food sustainability just to name a few. It also looks at the importance of vocational education. The duration of this video goes for about 25 minutes and I'd strongly recommend you see this! The free video can now be accessed using the following information.

Video link: <https://vimeo.com/438442071>

Passcode: digitalshowcase

Please note this video will only be available from **August 10 to September 04 (5pm)**, and will be removed after this time.

Supporting the video SkillsOne will be hosting a live **Q&A panel discussion on Wednesday 26 August at 6pm, on SkillsOne's Facebook page**. The panel discussions will include education and industry professionals and will be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have following the video.

Questions can be pre-submitted via email to info@skillsone.com.au and will be answered on the evening.

Happy viewing!

YES PROGRAM TERM 4 (Short TAFE Courses that run for a duration of 7 weeks at TAFE)

We are delighted that TAFE NSW Sydney Region has proposed a YES program for Term 4, 2020. Please refer to the attachments to see courses available and the Application Form that must be completed and returned to the Career Adviser ASAP.

Courses will commence the week beginning **October 19** and cease the week beginning **November 30**.

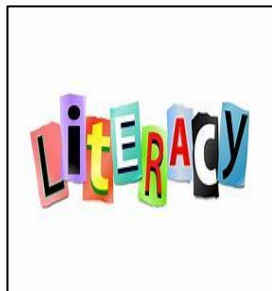
Some points to note:

- YES courses will run in accordance with the NSW Government COVID 19 guidelines as at the proposed date of delivery. All students will be required to adhere to all current guidelines as stipulated by the NSW Government and TAFE NSW. Successful applicant numbers in some courses will be impacted by COVID restrictions.
- There is no Learner Support in YES classes, a Vocational teacher and a Literacy teacher are teaching in each class. If your student requires Learner Support, a support teacher from school will need to attend class each week with the student.

If you should have any further questions or for more details, please don't hesitate to contact Ms Anton.

Mr Martyn Bawden

Literacy Program



Parents – Here are some of the important current issues in literacy and numeracy. Some of them impact directly on your son's credentialing, and all will affect his schooling!



Year 7 students:

As well as participating in the Accelerated Reader program (please keep encouraging your son to read for at least 20 minutes per evening), Year 7 have just completed an on-line literacy/numeracy homework program, running since the start of Term 2. This has involved doing a 15-minute literacy/numeracy exercise each week – partly to compensate for the cancellation of NAPLAN tests this year. Well done to the 93% of the cohort who participated in this program!

Year 9 students:

Year 9 students will be taking part in "Check-in Assessment" tests in Week 7 of this Term, again to keep in touch with their all-important literacy/numeracy skills in the absence of the NAPLAN tests. This Department of Education program features brief, on-line tests in reading and numeracy (only), and will add to the progress information we already have on these boys.

Year 10 students:

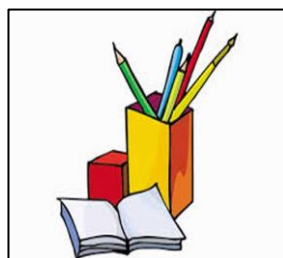
In Week 9 of last Term, all Year 10 students sat for three Minimum Standards on-line tests (in reading, writing and numeracy), in order to demonstrate the standards required for the award of a Higher School Certificate. Many students, to their credit, achieved all three standards in these tests, while others will now be entitled to another attempt (one attempt per Term is permitted), in Weeks 5 & 6 of this Term. It will be very important for the school to provide all the support that these students need, in order for all of them to experience success.

Parents who wish to enquire about their sons' Minimum Standards status are very welcome to contact Mr Bawden at the school.

Year 11/12 students:

A number of Year 11 and 12 students still need to demonstrate HSC Minimum Standards. Again, if uncertain about the status of your son with respect to Minimum Standards, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Bawden (Tuesdays and Thursdays), at the school. Contact details are listed below.

All students:



Homework Help re-commenced in Week 3 of this Term, on Mondays and Tuesdays, after school for one hour in the library. Assistance, especially in literacy, is available at these times. Make use of this valuable time!

If there are further enquiries, please ring Mr Bawden (Literacy/numeracy Support Person) at the school (Tuesdays and Thursdays), Ph. 9764 3611

Ms Judith Edwards Literacy Support



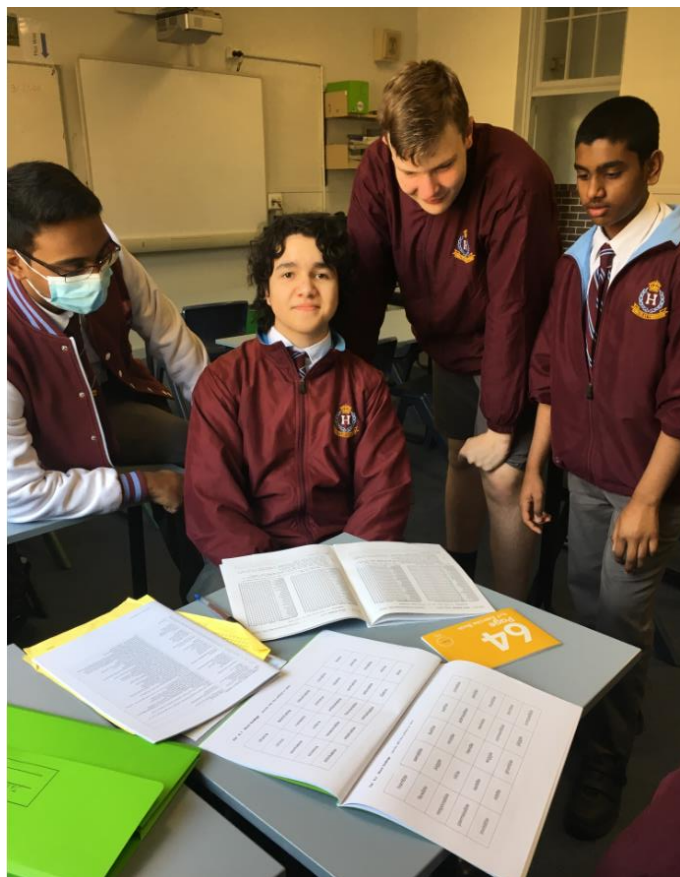
Peer Tutor Reading

Peer Tutors in Roll Call 32 and 35 are working wonders with their new students. Many of the current Year 7 students have already improved their phonics skills, language knowledge and reading speed. The trained tutors, who implement the effective MULTILIT phonics program, have gained great leadership and interpersonal skills.

The Year 7 students have also been invited to the school's free Speed Reading program, where they can continue their one-to-one work on their individualised materials in room 32 after school (Monday and Tuesday) and before school (Wednesday and Thursday).

One Year 12 student who has contributed to the roll call as well as the Speed Reading Program, Debashish Kumar, has written about his experience in this program.

"Becoming a Peer Tutor is a top contender in the category of best decisions I have ever made. Working alongside Mrs Edwards, tutoring junior students, is an experience that I will never forget. I have been a tutor in the program for four years, and looking back I cannot find a better way to spend my time than helping junior students with their literacy skills. Occasional I assist with maths also. It is so rewarding to watch the current Year 7 students grow, and become a mentor for them."



Thank you for your support

Dear Marie,

Thank you so much for being part of Australia's Biggest Morning Tea 2020 and raising an amazing \$700!

Cancer Council NSW is over 94% community funded and relies on the generosity of incredible people like you to help us achieve a cancer free future. The money you have raised enables us to fund life-saving research, cancer prevention programs, and provide vital support to those impacted by cancer.

Over the past 5 years alone, we have invested \$83.6 million into essential cancer research, which has helped increased survival rates from 49% in the 1980s to 69% today. But there is still so much more to do.

Bringing people together for a good cause is such an inspiring thing to do and your efforts in hosting your Biggest Morning Tea your way, will no doubt motivate others to also do their bit for a cancer free future. Every cuppa and every dollar really does make an incredible difference, so thank you.

We look forward to you joining us for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea next year!

Best wishes,



Lauren Clarke
Campaign Manager – Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Event ID: EI00149164

Funds banked in the last 24 hours, may not appear in your fundraising total above.





Thank you

We couldn't do it without you

Homebush Boys High School

Your Biggest Morning Tea has helped us fund vital research, prevention programs, and will allow us to continue to support those impacted by cancer.

biggestmorningtea.com.au

 **Cancer Council**
Australia's Biggest
Morning Tea

Language Faculty

The Year 8 students who are studying Chinese had the opportunity to participate in a Chinese food tasting session to get a wider experience of the language and culture they are studying. The students learned to cook 'chao fan' (fried rice) collaboratively, developing their team work skills and sharing their knowledge of cooking techniques. They shared the result with the class and teachers. It was a great cultural experience for all the students.

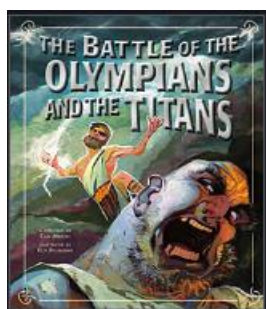
Year 8 Chinese
By Qingyue Zhao



Library

Recent myON Reviews

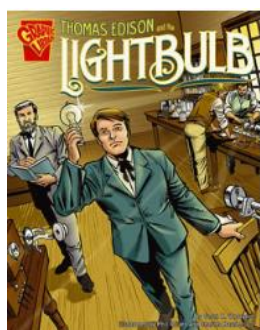
myON is an online library that can be accessed by HBHS students from years 7 to 12. Year 7 students can complete Accelerated Reader quizzes on most of these books. So far, our students have read 1848 books and have spent over 794 hours reading. Manga-style books are not the only type of text on the site. There are some original classics, such as “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer”, “Moby Dick”, “The Time Machine” and “Great Expectations”.



Review of *“The Battle of the Olympians and the Titans”*

“This book really unveils other mythologies such as how the Gods were made and how they got their power.”

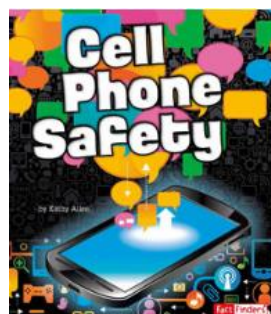
Chaksh Sharma, Year 7



Review of *“Thomas Edison and the Lightbulb”*

“This really showed Edison's journey to changing the world for the better.”

Abel Jacob, Year 7



Review of *“Cell Phone Safety”*

“This book shows the importance of safety online. We can learn the harmful facts, events, and how to be protected from negative impacts of technology.”

Dhananjay Vijayan, Year 7



Review of *“Super Cool Chemical Reaction Activities”*

“Very interesting for doing experiments.”

Chris Zhang Year 7



The Library might give you the shivers! A bundle of new “Goosebumps” books have been kindly donated to the Library. These books are flying off the shelves! Many of them also are Accelerated Reader texts, so Year 7 students can be scared, then take an Accelerated Reader Quiz.

Ms Houvardas Technology and Applied Science



Year 8 Food Technology have been creating virtual feasts over the last few weeks. They had to design and research their own menus and then work as a team to create the finished product. A great activity in creativity and collaboration, learning together to create an amazing feast. In these photos the boys are proudly displaying their efforts. Shahan, Isaac and Khaled had to find a menu and re-write it to make it a healthier meal. Boys designed their dish so it was culturally sensitive and yummy. They used colourful vegetables to complement their dish. Hugo, Anthony and Ayan were very much into producing an Asian style dishes. Boys produced a 3-course meal. Shahan, Isaac and Khaled were working together as a team discussing procedure and doing Mise-en-place to create their dish. Imran is preparing ingredients to make pumpkin soup. Ehsaan is preparing his amazing tabouleh salad. All of the students worked hard and produced great dishes. I am so proud of their achievements.



Mr Abderrahim Abbou (Rel. H/T) Technology and Applied Science

TAS in action



I'm very pleased to see our students engaged in their hands on learning and designing small projects in a range of elective Technologies courses. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills through a design and production process using a range of tools and materials. Students are shining with their well-designed projects, developing solutions to real world problems. I have visited them in different classes: Electronics, Information Technology, Metal, Timber and Food Technology. They are doing exceptionally well.

On Thursday 13th of August a group of students from year 9 to 11 had their White Card training at school with an external training provider.

A White Card is a mandatory requirement for construction workers in Australia. This means that if you want to work in the construction industry, you have to have one.

This White Card is the common name for the 'Prepare to Work Safely in the Construction Industry CPCCWHS1001' training course. It covers the basic WHS knowledge required prior to commencing work tasks within any of the sectors of the construction industry. Students will be given a Statement of Training following the completion of training. The SafeWork NSW White Card will be posted to the students address within the next few weeks.



Student reporting from Electronics

This semester, students in Year 10 Electronics had the chance to create a dasher flasher and had completed a battery-operated car. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our practical tasks had been halted and online learning had been taken via Zoom calls and Edmodo.

The project assigned to all students in Year 10 was to build a battery operated car and a dasher flasher, a component found in all cars that activate the security alarm. This had been due to complete in 20 weeks and with continuous guidance from Mr. Madakasira this target was achieved. At the start of the project, everyone had been given a PCB (Printed Circuit Board), on which it had outlined the components and their place on the board. After the process of soldering all the components on the circuit board, we had measured and precisely cut wood to the size of 1/32 and had placed nails in place of a parallel circuit diagram. By using copper insulated wires, we were successfully able to complete the circuit. After so, we had taken plastic tubes in which metal car axles were measured and inserted using

grease to smoothen the rotational action on the wheels. Plastic gears and DC (Direct Current) motors were placed at the medium of each axel and then plastic wheels with rubber tyres had placed the end of each greased axel, the car had successfully started to run.

With the exceptional guidance of Mr. Madakasira, the project was successfully completed. As Neil de Grasse Tyson once said, "Dreams about the future is full with electronics and is ever-changing".

By Shakthikram Kulandaivel Yr.10



Student reporting from IST

Here in Year 9 IST, we are learning and studying how robotics strengthen and support students' skills developing their knowledge through the creation, design, assembly, and operation of robots. We are currently working in groups so we can program and perform tasks carried out by humans. To build a robot we have decided to construct using Lego pieces as students can follow instructions while building their chosen robotic kit. Students have also used LEGO NXT and python Idle to start learning the skills of coding the robot. This will help students understand how programming is used and operated.

By Elijah Abarintos Yr.9



PD/HEALTH/PE

Ms Kate Fitzsimmons (Head Teacher)



Acrobatics

Term 3 for 10PDHPE has brought about a new practical challenge. The boys have been learning and practising their Circus Skills over the past four weeks, preparing themselves for their upcoming assessment. The boys have learnt two person acrobatics moves, three plus person acrobatics moves, juggling and diablo. They will then be forming a group and composing a performance that includes all of these new found skills that will demonstrate complex movement skills across different contexts, showing synchronisation, skill, balance, coordination and teamwork. The students have been preparing well and we look forward to seeing their performances in the upcoming weeks.

