

# HBHS BUSH BULLETIN



Email: [homebushbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:homebushbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) Ph.: 9764 3611



## Principal Mr Kevin Elgood

Vale Kerry Meucci

Sadly, Mrs Kerry Meucci our Head Teacher Learning Support/ESL passed away last term on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 after a brave battle with illness. Mrs Meucci was very highly regarded by all our students and staff, especially our ESL, International and Learning Support Students with whom she worked very closely, some even calling her “Mum”.

Mrs Muecci was appointed to Homebush Boys High School on the 15th of September 1982, almost 40 years ago. Not long after she started here there was a fire at the beginning of 1983 that destroyed the entire Block A of the School. Staff were required to work across two sites, Years 7 and 8 moved to what was then the Meadowbank Boys High School site, with the remainder in the shell of Homebush Boys High School, this would have made communication and support challenging for any new teacher but Mrs Meucci easily met the challenge.

I began a nine year teaching period at Homebush Boys High School at the beginning of 1985, joining the Maths staff and sharing a staffroom with Mrs Meucci and the ESL staff. She was an inspirational teacher, always friendly, helpful, genuine and caring. Kerry focused on providing the best support, care and education for her students.

Returning to Homebush Boys High School in 2018, after 25 years away, I found that Mrs Meucci was still at Homebush and still devoting her time and energy to providing the best support for our students, by now she was a long-time active member of the School Executive, having been promoted to Head Teacher Learning Support/ESL many years before. As a member of the Executive, Mrs Meucci always campaigned for the rights of her students and put their needs at the forefront of all decision making.

Mrs Meucci was especially proud of her staff in the ESL / Learning Support faculty and she worked with them like a family – protective, supportive, encouraging and caring towards them, like a mother with her children.

Mrs Meucci educated and cared for many thousands of boys over her time at Homebush Boys High School. She leaves an outstanding legacy, having dedicated her life work to ensuring the boys at Homebush always had the best possible education and support.

Our community is grieving her loss, but we will remember Mrs Meucci as a remarkable person – an outstanding educator, a friend to many and a beloved member of our Homebush Boys High School Community. We extend our sincere condolences to her husband Piero, her daughters Kristina and Joanne and all her extended family.





## Term 2

I hope all boys had a great, fun and safe holiday and are ready for the challenges that Term 2 will bring.

Mr Elaro has reminded the boys about our expectations for learning and behaviour on assembly when they returned. A new term is a great opportunity to commit to a greater effort, especially for those who have not been doing so. We reminded students of their responsibility - each boy has a responsibility to come to school ready, eager and able to learn.

This means that boys must:

- **wear the appropriate uniform including a school tie;**
- **arrive on time in the morning and for each class;**
- **bring the materials they require for each subject;**
- **be ready and receptive to learn in every lesson.**

## School Upgrade Announced

It was very exciting when Homebush Boys High School was selected as the location for the NSW Premier, The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, and NSW Minister for Education, Sarah Mitchell, to make a media announcement regarding the Metro Renewal Program at the end of Term 1.

The Metro Renewal Program is an education infrastructure investment program. The Premier announced that as part of this program, Homebush Boys High School will be getting a \$2.1 million upgrade which will include a new High-Tech Library and other improvements to learning, staff and administration facilities in the school.

All metro Renewal Program projects are to be completed by the end of next year. We look forward to engaging in design and planning of our new learning spaces in the near future.

The Homebush Boys High School community has been seeking improvements for many years now and I would like to thank everyone who has supported us in these endeavours over the years, especially our P&C and the Honourable Jodi McKay, our local Member of Parliament.



## P&C Meeting Tuesday 26th April

Our next P&C meeting on Tuesday 26th April at 6:30pm in the school hall. We welcome all parents, it is a great opportunity to meet other parents, discuss the latest news and find out what is happening around the school. We would love to see you at the meeting on Tuesday.

## Ms Catherine Player Deputy Principal (Year 8 & 11)



As Term Two begins, it's time to reflect on the amazing things that have been happening throughout Term 1. In the classroom Year 11 have started new subjects and their Preliminary Studies, Year 8 have added learning a language to their studies and our student leaders have been elected and actively involved in fundraisers and regularly meeting with the Principal and myself to represent the students with their ideas. All in all, it's been a very productive term.

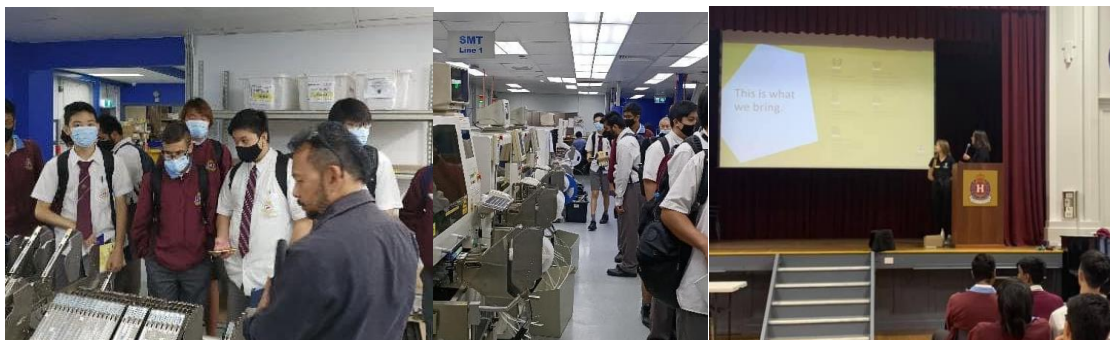
### Year 8:

Year 8 have been actively involved in their studies, sport, and extra-curricular activities. They are learning and maturing every day, and they never cease to amaze me with how much progress they have made. Congratulations to Yousef A, Rashed, Ridhwan and Youssef T on being elected SRC leaders for the year. They have already asked Mr Elgood some hard questions at the SRC Principal Morning Teas. We are in safe hands with them as the Year 8 leaders. Some Year 8 students will start the Drum Beat Program this term and we are looking at other programs to build teamwork, leadership, confidence, and resilience. They have also taken on the role of School Service, daily helping out at the front office on a rotational basis. Please encourage your sons to do their best in Term 2, keep up with their studies and be responsible members of the school community.



## Year 11:

Year 11 have started their Preliminary Studies and have made a great start. They are happily studying the subjects they have chosen for their senior pathway and getting to understand the demands of Stage 6. Some are also combining TAFE and Industry studies, ensuring they are setting themselves up for life beyond school. They now have a fortnightly year assembly where guest speakers, such as UNSW, come to advise them on life beyond school. It is great to see the increased maturity they are approaching their studies with and the new leadership roles they are taking on. I encourage them to make the most of their opportunities, work consistently on their studies and build their knowledge base in preparation for their HSC year.



## Student Leadership:

The Student Leadership Teams – The Prefects, SRC and Interact- have been busy this term. For the first time we had an Interact and SRC Investiture. It was lovely to meet the families of our elected leaders and recognise the hard work they do in school and the community.

Congratulations to the Executives:

### Interact:

President: Titus Charoensri

Vice President: Edmund Wong

Secretary: Sisitoutai Taufa

Treasurer: Yoshua Tsang

### SRC:

President: Anargyros Kallos

Vice President: Vasanth Kumaralingam

Secretary: Diluxan Ramanan

Our Prefects also attended a Leadership Conference in the city to strengthen their leadership skills. They have also raised money for the World's Greatest Shave and done many other fundraisers. They have also been great ambassadors at our local primary schools. They are certainly a team of many talents. Their work has been tireless. We are so proud of all our elected leaders.







### **REMINDER:**

**A reminder that students are to wear a tie with their academic uniform in Terms 2 and 3. Please ensure your son wears his tie and has his shirt tucked in every day. Also ensure he is wearing the correct jumper. No coloured jackets or hoodies and no black tracksuit pants are permitted.**



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we all know, 2020 was a tough year.

This was particularly so for our students and teachers who rose to the challenges in a disrupted year that included seven weeks of remote learning due to COVID-19. For our students, this was an unsettling time.

The government and department have provided the 2021 COVID Intensive Learning Support Program to ensure that students' educational outcomes continue to improve in 2021. Students are being identified who would most benefit from this intensive support.

From Term 2 we will be implementing small group tuition with a special tutor. The groups will be conducted mostly during school hours and possibly some before and after school times.

Please nominate your son, if you feel he has been adversely affected by 2020, and would benefit from being included in this literacy and numeracy tuition. Please contact the school on 9764 3611.

We will keep you updated. In the meantime the department's website has more information on this program.

Best wishes,  
*Mandy Worth*

**COVID Intensive Learning Support Teacher**



## **Ms Jennie Dalamagas** **Deputy Principal (Year 7 & 10)**



Term 1 has been a wonderful introduction to Homebush Boys High School. As Mr Elgood mentioned in his report earlier this year, I am at HBHS as part of an exchange program with Strathfield Girls High School. Ms Paleothodoras and I have exchanged places for the year to provide stronger links between the two schools. This has been a very positive exchange with the recognition of new programs and initiatives, as well as comparisons between boy's and girl's education.

I feel very honoured to be working with a great team of staff members and alongside the Senior Executive, Mr Elgood, Ms Player and Mr Elaro. The entire Homebush Boys High staff have made me feel very welcome.

The last week of Term 1 was one to be remembered with the visit from our Premier, the Honourable Gladys Berejiklian, our Minister for Education, the Honourable Sarah Mitchell and the Chief Health Officer, Ms Kerry Chant. The announcement of a \$2.1 million upgrade to our school is one that is greatly appreciated by our school community.







The Department of Education's Strategic goal is Every Student is *Known, Valued and Cared* for in our Schools. This goal is one that is regularly communicated and practiced in our school.

## Year 10

Our Year 10 cohort meeting occurred in Week 9. At this meeting our guest speakers were our Police Liaison Officers, Senior Constable Anne Ferfolya and Senior Constable Phil who addressed our students on the dangers associated with vaping. Vaping has greatly increased in Australia especially with underage students. Parents and students need to clearly understand the dangers of vaping and have regular discussions to prevent their usage.

I would like to acknowledge Ms R. Singh, the Year 10 Year Adviser, for all of her hard work this term with Year 10 and for her continual support. I am confident that our students are making successful progress under Ms Singh's leadership and monitoring.

Year 10 also selected their SRC representatives this term. I would like to congratulate Ayman Chaabou, Aidan Ellassad, Marc Garcia, Zane Hamad, Noah Raymond and Aryan Rodrigues. Well done gentleman on this great achievement.

I would also like to stress the importance of maintaining a rigid study program this year in preparation for Year 11. Year 10 will be selecting their Preliminary subjects later in the year and many recommendations will be based on their progress this year. Attendance also plays a factor in your son's success. Regular school attendance with a percentage over 90% is highly recommended.

Our Year 10 students sat their first attempt of the Minimum Standards in Reading, Numeracy and Writing this term. Many can be congratulated for successfully completing these tests and achieving a Level 3 or 4, qualifying for the Higher School Certificate. Students who didn't attain a Level 3 or 4 in any of the three areas will have 3 other attempts this year.

## Year 7

Year 7 have now successfully transitioned into high school, and it is wonderful to see so many new friendships being made. I am very impressed with the high standard that has been achieved by our Year 7 cohort especially with their uniform and attendance.

The Year 7 Year Advisor, Mr Kisso has made great progress in getting to know his cohort and has worked closely with me to identify students who may need extra assistance with their transition.

Year 7 also selected their SRC representatives this term. I would like to congratulate Adam Hamad, Hwanhee (Henry) Kim, Rohit Rukman and Ekrem Uyk. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement.

The Year 7 **Meet the Teacher** afternoon was very successful this term with many Year 7 parents being able to finally meet with the staff members who teach their sons. The staff were able to provide a snapshot of their Key Learning Area via an exhibition of faculty resources.

A welcoming BBQ with the help of Mr Kisso, Ms Karas and a member of the P&C Mr Sam Taufua made this wet afternoon a great one!









## Mr. Chabes Elaro

### Rel. Deputy Principal (Year 9 & 12)



Firstly, a big thank you to Ms Fitzsimmons who was the relieving Deputy for the first 6 weeks of Term 1. She did most of the heavy lifting with Years 9 and 10, the Year Advisers and the relevant students.

Time has moved very, very quickly during the last 4 weeks of Term 1.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all the Year Advisers. The support they offer the students in their cohorts is remarkable. Working closely with Ms Kumaralingam and Ms Karas (Year 12) and Ms Coutinho (Year 9) is both enjoyable and inspiring. The amount of time they devote to making sure students are well fed, focused on their studies and happy is immense. They organise assemblies which are highly informative and motivating. The photo on the right shows Year 9 listening to a motivational speech by a former Australian Winter Olympian that Ms Coutinho organised in week 9.



The Homebush Boys annual Public Speaking Competition was held on Tuesday 23 March. I had the pleasure of handing out the awards to the winners in both the junior and senior categories/competitions. Congratulations to Mrs Sahay who has now organised the competition for 11 straight years in its current format. She publicises the competition, she organises all the prizes, makes sure the trophies are ready and the topics are distributed. Well done to all the

participants and congratulations to the winners. These winners will be entered in various competitions during terms 2 and 3.



Teachers have been working very hard in the classrooms across the school, enaging the students and challenging them in every subject. I have been fortunate to wander into various classrooms looking at students' work and enaging with teachers from different KLAS. It is great to see students' effort and teachers' professionalism. Year 9 English classes, for instance, had an assessment that required students to design a board game based on the novel being studied in class. The boys worked in pairs in most cases. The creativity and the innovation evident in the games were fantastic. The games had to also be functional with rules and a purpose. On the left is a photo of some boys playing the games they invented.

Looking forward to seeing lots of great work in Term 2. Remember that term 2 is a winter term, which means it is time to wear your ties with your full school uniforms.

*Cheiban Elaro*

*Rel. DP*

## Mr Sam Widmer Rel. Head Teacher Support Unit



Over the month of March, staff from Homebush Boys and students from the Support Unit raised awareness about Autism. We did this by participating in *Walk for Autism* which required all team members to walk 10000 steps a day from March 21-28. Each day during week 9 this term, we walked as a group to raise awareness. We collaborated with another school in the local area, Strathfield South High School, for a walk one morning and cooked a BBQ at Strathfield Park on the last day. Students from the Interact Club volunteered to walk and cook the BBQ with us which was fantastic.

The Homebush Boys team managed to raise \$5016 for Aspect Australia which was an incredible achievement. Our target was \$3000, so I want to thank everyone who supported us. As a school, we finished 9<sup>th</sup> overall!









## Ms Gyan Sahay

### English Teacher/Public Speaking Coordinator



#### All Boys John Symond Public Speaking

On Tuesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March, 16 students from years 7 to 11 spoke on a range of contemporary topics.

Although the annual John Symond Public Speaking Competition attracted fewer participants this year, the quality of the speeches, especially in the Junior Section made it difficult to decide the winners.

All contestants need to be congratulated for carrying out in-depth research on their topics. The novices, no doubt, would have learnt some valuable tips from the veteran speakers. The contestants all received a certificate of participation and the winners received prizes from Mr Elaro.

Our Deputy Principal, MS Player was very impressed with the quality of the senior's speeches. Sameer Kamal and Rishik Vinnakata were winners of the Senior and Junior section respectively and were awarded the HBHS Public Speaking Shield, a trophy and a \$50 gift voucher.

Junior Section		
Winner	Rishik Vinnakata	
Runner Up:	Rashed Rana	8
2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner Up:	Zayd Abou Zeid	8
Highly Commended	Harshan M	7

Senior Section		
Winner	Sameer Kamal	11
Runner Up:	Shakthiram K	11
2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner Up:	Hayder Iqbal	11
Highly Commended	Vasanth Kumaralingam	11

Adjudicator: Ms Sahay

Trophies and a gift card of \$25 were awarded to the first and second finalists, as well as the Most Commended Speakers in the Junior and Senior Divisions. All students were treated to gourmet pizza for their excellent effort.

The winners will take part in the prestigious Plain English Speaking competition later this month and Junior Legacy next term organised by The Arts Unit. The format for these competitions will be digital. We wish the boys good luck.

I would like to thank the participants, their parents, the Office staff, and English teachers for encouraging the students to participate and Mr Elaro for his continued support over the 16 years I have been running this competition.

Special thank you to John Symond for his generous support of this tournament over the years.

*G Sahay*  
*Public Speaking Coordinator*

## Ms Georgia Anton Career Adviser



### HBHS attend Strathfield Town Hall International Women's Day

I had the pleasure to attend this event with some of our best. Our students Ishu Rawat, Siddhant Jethaliya and Diluxan Ramanan represented our school beautifully today and were inspired by the leading presenters. The theme "Challenge to Change" resonated with all and the boys took a lot on board. In particular, the quote that the Honorary Federal Member of Parliament, Dr Fiona Martin referenced from the late Margaret Thatcher, "the Iron Lady" that said it all was "you want something said and you get a man to say it, you want something done and you get the woman to act on it." In the current time we'd like to think that as females we can do both, that is the ability to be vocal and act to bring on changes. Our State Local member, The Honourable Jodi McKay was in attendance and provided an inspirational speech on the day to the audience. On behalf of the school, we'd like to thank Strathfield Town Hall for providing this opportunity to us.



## Carpentry Presentation

Corey from IBUILD has taken time from his busy schedule to discuss the complexities of the Carpentry industry. Discussion on the trade, TAFE, expectations and opportunities that could arise such as work experience and future apprenticeships.

He gave a great insight on pursuing a career in the trade and we would like to thank Corey for his input which was very well received. Likewise, I would also like to extend our gratitude to Cristina Noordermeer for linking us into Corey.





## Clean Up Graffiti Day



Getting a bit of a Ghostbuster vibe, or does it look as though the boys have their Hazmat suits on? Close, but not quite, our selfless volunteers were in action once again. Giving up part of their weekend to assist with the removal of Graffiti in the local community. The work that these boys do is fabulous, and they definitely leave their mark in the area. Once again done with the help of our friendly Rotarian Peter Smith. Great work everyone and thank you for being so considerate.



## Winner of Hospitality Work Placement Award

Work Placement is a mandatory component of the Hospitality Kitchen Operations Course. Whilst Joshua was at his allocated work placement, he was very impressive as he showed maturity and enthusiasm beyond his years. So much so that he was offered casual employment and nominated for an award.

As a result, Joshua Chong from the HSC 2020 cohort won the award last week for the Hospitality Kitchen Operations category at the MWLP Work Placement Awards. There were many applicants but only one winner.

Congratulations Joshua!



## 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:

The Accelerated Reader program is now well in progress. As the Term continues, please make sure your son is completing his at-home reading of his Accelerated Reader book. At least 20 minutes per evening is needed.

#### Year 7 & 9 students:

Year 7 & 9 students are being prepared for the upcoming NAPLAN tests (11<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May), remembering that Year 9 will also be attempting Minimum Standards Literacy and Numeracy tests early the following year. This year, again at this school, all NAPLAN tests will be on-line, so it is important that students are ready (a letter will shortly be sent to all Year 7 and 9 parents about this). Year 9 students should be especially diligent in completing the weekly Google Classroom literacy/numeracy homework, in preparation.

#### Year 10 students:

As already advised, the NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA) has stated that, from now on, students need to achieve minimum literacy and numeracy standards in order to gain an HSC. In Week 8 this Term, all Year 10 students will have sat for three on-line tests (in reading, writing and numeracy), in order to demonstrate these standards. A letter was sent to all Year 10 parents, early this year, providing more details.

#### Year 11/12 students:

Minimum Standards tests are being conducted, each Term, for Year 11 & 12 students who have yet to demonstrate those standards. 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 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/Thursdays), Ph.: 9764 3611.



## Ms Christina Papavramidis Head Teacher HSIE & Prefect Coordinator



### HBHS Prefect Afternoon Tea



On Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, Homebush Boys prefect team held our annual Prefect Afternoon Tea. This is an event held at schools throughout the year, as a chance for prefects to come together, build community relationships, socialise and have fun. Throughout the day a number of activities were held, allowing the prefects to get to know each other, and the school. Students came from not just the local area, but from as far as Penrith High School and Sydney Boys High School.

Guests arrived at Homebush Boys around 4 pm, where they were shown into the hall, and seated into their allocated groups. These groups split up the schools, so everyone got an opportunity to meet new people. We opened with a Kahoot prepared and hosted by our very own Si-Kun Rong. Each table competed as a team, with group 9 coming out on top. Overall, the Kahoot got a great reception and was a great success.

Next up was a version of two truths, one lie, where three people got up on stage and told a fact or story about themselves. As the title suggests, one of these tales was a lie, and it was the audience's job to call out who they thought it was. Throughout the event there were recounts of various injuries, out-there families, and one particularly amusing lie of "I have passed both my maths tests this year." The whole show was run very smoothly by Stephen Wilcox and was a great success.

We gathered in the common room for afternoon tea which comprised of pizza organised by Ms Papas and then headed down toward the new table-tennis tables. This was a more relaxed opportunity to talk with prefects who you might not have had the chance to before. Table tennis equipment was provided, this made up our last activity. This was much more informal, just a chance for a chat and to play table tennis until it was time to leave.

An enormous thank you to Ms Papas, Ms Cheung and Ms Player for all their efforts in organising and setting up the day's events. Thank you to Daniel, Stephen, Si Kun, Yosh, Ben, Edmund and Ishu, who all put in huge amounts of time and effort into organising this event. To Ayden, our treasured photographer, and to everybody who came and made the afternoon a huge success.

*Written by:  
James Wark  
Vice-Captain*



### **A day on Macquarie Street**

On Thursday 25 March, the Year 11 Legal Studies class along with our teacher, Ms Duch, went and explored NSW parliament on Macquarie Street. Our day began with an overview of NSW parliament. We learnt of its history, its place in the division of power and so much more. This included learning about the differences between the legislative council and legislative assembly, the ways in which voting operates for both houses, as well as the creation of legislation at the state level. Although we had already been introduced to many of the topics, there was an abundance of new information and detail which enhanced our knowledge of state government and legislation.

Following this, we were introduced to the Honourable Jodi McKay, member for Strathfield and leader of the state opposition. She enlightened us briefly on her roles which intrigued many of us. Seizing the opportunity to ask questions, several boys enthusiastically brought up pressing and significant issues affecting the country and community. This varied from questions on the voting age, to questions about funding for education, in particular for our school. The enthusiasm and the initiative of the class has been noted for the future. In addition, the class was introduced to what are known as Upper House Committees. Essentially, these are an extension of the legislative council that conduct inquiries of public concern on behalf of the legislative council. Some considered this content heavy, however, it was concerted that much was learnt and much interest was invested in what was being heard.

I'd like to thank the people who made the day possible. This includes the speakers who discussed these topics, to the very busy opposition leader, The Honourable Jodi McKay. And not to forget our teacher, Ms Duch, who organised this excursion and truly realised the events of the day. An excellent experience, and hopefully more excursions are on the books!

*Written by Anargyros Kallos  
Year 11 Legal Studies student*







## Mr Elie Kisso

### Year 7 Adviser

#### Year 7 – Mr Kisso (Year Advisers address)

What a start to the 2021 Year 7 cohort. Firstly, it has been a pleasure to welcome these students into the Homebush Boys community and we are extremely proud of all students who are trying their best in all areas whether that is academic, social or sporting. I have tried my absolute best to get around and get to know all the students in the year group alongside the assistant Year Adviser Mr T.



Working alongside our Year 7 Deputy Principal, Ms Dalamagas, we have proactively met on numerous occasions and collaborated on how to support the wellbeing of each individual student in the year group. Throughout term one students have been put through the ropes with numerous activities such as the first ever transition program, camp, Best Start, meet the teachers, vaccinations and practice Naplan testing. It has definitely been a jam-packed experience for all students transitioning from primary school to high school and one thing is certain that all our students are finding their feet.

The notion of working hard, trying our best and respecting each other has been a common theme running through year 7 this term. I am sure all students are doing their best in handling a whole range of subjects with a different teacher for each class which was at first daunting but the feedback I have received from all our teachers is that the cohort is enthusiastic and enjoying their time in high school.

#### Year 7 Assembly

We had the privilege of holding our first official Year 7 assembly which covered an array of items on the agenda. The assembly held a core focus on student resilience and always remaining strong during any



difficult time. The cohort held a discussion and was amazed at how knowledgeable our students were in the field of resilience, something we were extremely proud of.

Our own Year 7 student Luka Andrugă volunteered to be the chair of the assembly addressing the staff and students and welcoming each new item on the day. The assembly allowed a group of Year 7 students to perform their Student Representative Council speeches and why they should be representing their cohort and the school. I would like to congratulate Adam Hamad, Hwanhee (Henry) Kim, Rohit Rukhman, Ekrem Uyok for being successful during the voting process.



The assembly also gave us an opportunity for students to be awarded Year Adviser awards for hard work during term 1. Congratulations to these students:

Hayden Cox	Ayman Radwan	Magneeraj Gnanaraja
Inayatullah Syed	Luka Andrugă	Kingston Huang
Joseph Faltas	Andy Kim	Lachlan Lu
Andy Park	Omri Mullen	Umut Gundoganli
Devesh Venkatagiri	Mark Graham	Zac Southall
Tanmay Hodar	Thomas Nelson	David Seo
Riley Donnellan	Duhun Lee	





### **Year 7 Meet the Teachers**

Firstly, I would like to thank everybody who made this night possible as without the help our staff, student assistants, parents and our lovely year 7 cohort and family this would not be possible. The Year 7 meet the teacher's night was a huge success that allowed our parents to socialise and meet the Year 7 teachers.

The event was extremely busy even with the drastic change in weather we experienced on the day. Students helped their parents identify their teachers and engaged in fantastic conversations. The beautiful element on this night was that our school and community had an opportunity to engage with each other. The chance for events such as this only help strengthen our relationship with those involved in the school to ensure we provide the best experience possible for all our students. Below are a few snapshots of the night! Once again, I was privileged to meet such lovely parents and hope to build a strong relationship and rapport over the many years.

From all the staff involved with Year 7 we hope to continue to build on these relationships in Term 2.







## Ms Michelle Coutinho Year 9 Adviser

This term has been extremely busy for Year 9. We have had a range of speakers coming out and speaking to the boys on various topics like goal setting, mindfulness and teamwork. Below is a snapshot of the last few weeks.



### West Tiger Unite Harmony Program



The boys participating in the West Tigers Unite Harmony Program have thoroughly enjoyed their experience and taken a lot out of the last 6 weeks. Each week they participated in workshops which focused on a different theme and enjoyed some footy. Last week the boys were lucky enough to celebrate Harmony Day at the West Tigers training facility.

As well as having the opportunity to throw a football around and learn new rugby league skills, the boys enjoyed an engaging presentation by NRL Head Coach Michael Maguire and player Shawn Blore, as well as a number of Wests Tigers staff members.







### Year 9 Assembly

In this term's Year Assembly, we were privileged to host Rohan Chapman-Davies, who is a retired winter Olympian. His presentation had the boys on the edge of their seats, as he shared his personal story with all the highs and lows. Rohan inspired the boys to be the best version of themselves – whether that's in the classroom, the sporting field or at home. The boys took away some life lessons on the importance of passion and goal setting. Some boys were lucky enough to get some autographs too!



## **Mental Fitness Program**



A group of Year 9 boys recently participated in the Mental Fitness Challenge with the Blackdog Institute. The program is designed to help young people manage their mental health and improve their general wellbeing. The presentation was a 45 minute talk with special guest speaker Declan Stacey from the NSW Institute of Sport, who is a professional athlete in synchronized diving. It was an interesting and beneficial talk that involved some interactive activities throughout. The presentation aimed to help students with the below:

- Build strength, flexibility and endurance to cope effectively
- Learn how to refocus the mindset
- Recognise and feel good about the positives in life
- Reduce stress and worry
- Strengthen the immune system
- Improve memory, concentration and creative thinking
- Develop life meaning and purpose statements





## Environment Club - Clean Up Australia Day

As always, Year 9 are active participants in the Environment Club. This term they participated in Clean up Australia Day. I am so proud of my eco warriors for their continued dedication and their commitment and enthusiasm to get involved and proactively care for the environment. The event was a great success and gave the boys a great hands-on practical educational experience and built teamwork skills whilst making a difference.





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CG2 4HJ QQC**

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by **advancedlife**. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) using our school's unique **9 digit advancedorder code**. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please contact us at [www.advancedlife.com.au/contact](http://www.advancedlife.com.au/contact)





## Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
|  laptops & tablets  |  lessons & activities |
|  uniforms & shoes   |  books & supplies     |
|  sports fees & gear |  camps & excursions   |

To join Saver Plus, you must be at least 18 years or over, have a child at school or starting next year, attend vocational education yourself, have regular income from paid employment (you or your partner)\*, have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card and be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*



**Contact**  
your local Saver Plus  
Coordinator

**Phone**  
1300 610 355

**Email**  
InnerwestSydneySP@  
thesmithfamily.com.au

**Online**  
saverplus.org.au  
Find us on Facebook 



\*Many types of income and Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information\*

\*Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with The Smith Family, Berry Street and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to [www.dss.gov.au](http://www.dss.gov.au) for more information\*

# What is Saver Plus?

-  A free ten-month savings program providing financial education, budgeting and savings tips.
-  Participants receive up to \$500 from ANZ in matched savings for education costs for themselves or their children.
-  Delivered by Brotherhood of St Laurence, Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community organisations.
-  Offered in communities across Australia in every state and territory.

## A Saver Plus Participant's Journey



## Who can join?

Participants must meet all of the below criteria:

- Be 18 years or over
- Have a child at school or attend vocational education themselves
- Have regular income from paid employment (themselves or their partner)
- Have a current Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
- Be in receipt of an eligible Commonwealth social security benefit, allowance or payment\*

## Benefits for participants<sup>1</sup>

-  **87%** continue to save the same amount or more 3 to 7 years after completing the program
-  **78%** were better equipped for unexpected expenses
-  **88%** reported increased self-esteem
-  **80%** had more control over their finances

## How did it start?

Saver Plus began in 2003 as a Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ pilot program with 268 participants in three sites across Victoria and New South Wales.

Since then, the program has expanded to all Australian states and territories, reaching more than 40,000 people, making it the largest and longest-running program of its kind in the world.

## Since 2003<sup>1</sup>:

-  **40,000+** participants
-  **\$23m+** - total amount saved by participants
-  **\$18m+** - matched funds paid by ANZ

## Find out more

-  1300 610 355
-  [saverplus@bsl.org.au](mailto:saverplus@bsl.org.au)
-  [saverplus.org.au](http://saverplus.org.au)
-  @SaverPlusAU

  
saverplus

\* many Centrelink payments are eligible, please contact your local Coordinator for more information.

<sup>1</sup> RMIT University, 2018. A number of Saver Plus program evaluations have been carried out since 2003. For more information see [anz.com/saverplus](http://anz.com/saverplus)

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