



HOME BUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

BUSH BULLETIN



HOME BUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal Mr Kevin Elgood



Today we complete a whole term of remote learning, something that none of us would have believed or even would have thought was a possibility before now. It has been an incredibly difficult time, more so for some than others. Some students have adapted well and completed all lessons and tasks while others have struggled to work and engage in learning remotely. Our teachers and support staff have also found remotely learning a challenge and I commend all our staff for the amazing job they have done throughout the term. I know that it has been challenging for you to, from getting your sons up in the morning to ensuring that they are working and engaging in lessons.

The schedule for students returning to school was released several weeks ago by the NSW Government, please take note of these dates:

- **Year 12** students have full-time access to school and their teachers from **Monday 25 October** (Term 4 Week 4). HSC exams have been delayed until 9 November.
- All **Year 11** students return to school on Monday 1 November (Term 4 Week 5).
- All **Years 7, 8, 9 and 10** students return to school on Monday 8 November (Term 4 Week 6).

It is important to note that there will only be one method of delivery of learning for each Year at any time, Online learning will continue until students return to school on their scheduled date, Face to face learning at school will then commence for that Year and online learning will cease.

Current Health advice is that:

- Students should stay at home until their scheduled return date
- Everyone aged 12 years and over is strongly encouraged to get vaccinated as soon as possible

All staff working onsite from Monday October 25 will be fully vaccinated with double doses of COVID vaccinations.

I will send updates as we come closer to returning, please refer to our website regularly for the latest information.

Website change

We will be moving our website over to the School Website Service during the holidays. It will take a couple of weeks for us to set it up and fully update and move all the information. You will see a totally new look; I recommend taking a little time to navigate through the site and familiarise yourself with the layout so that you can find the information you need. We will ensure that all important news and information is available from the front page while we migrate over to the new site.

School holidays begin this afternoon, I wish you and you family a restful break from remote learning. I thank you for your support during this difficult term and we all look forward to our community getting back to normal as soon as possible. I hope that you stay safe and well.

Ms Catherine Player Deputy Principal (Year 8 & 11)



We are at the end of very long and difficult term for all of us. 10 weeks of online learning due to the health conditions prevailing in NSW has definitely been a challenge for students, families and staff alike. I would like to thank all our families and community for all your hard work supporting your sons and their learning during this time. We know it hasn't been easy but together we have kept your sons learning during this lockdown.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our staff for all their efforts during this time. Going into online learning and working from home has not been an easy task. However, feedback from our students has had nothing but praise for the efforts of our staff in keeping them engaged and going above and beyond to look after their wellbeing. Our community has really shown the Busy Boys Spirit this term.

Leadership:

It is that time of the year where we thank our 2020/2021 Prefects for their outstanding service to the school community and introduce our 2021/2022 Prefects. Our Captain, Ishu Rawat, Vice Captains, David Kadamani and James Wark, Sports Captain, Rahim Kamara, Senior Prefect Leo Simon and their team have been wonderful leaders and role models for the school. They have worked tirelessly to fund raise and implement initiatives to improve their school community. They were instrumental in student voice workshops and advocating for students' ideas and always represented the school with dignity and honour. Thank you to a fine group of young men and we wish you all good luck in your HSC examinations and future pathways.

It is with great pride that I introduce our newly elected prefects for 2021/2022. I had the privilege of interviewing some of these gentlemen and watching all of their video applications. The passion and commitment with which they spoke about the school and wanting to make a difference was inspiring. I am looking forward to working with them and Ms Papas, Prefect Coordinator, on the many initiatives they have in mind. Some have already taken part in some leadership training and they will continue their developments as leaders throughout the coming year and continue to build on the good work of the prefect body they are taking over from next term.



Our new Prefects are:

Jackson CAMPTON
Avraam CARLETON
Henry GAO
Soban HANIF
Haydar IQBAL
Anargyros KALLOS
Samee KAMAL
William KNIGHT

Toby KNIGHT
Shakthikram KULANDAIVEL
Vasanth KUMARALINGAM
Elias MANSFIELD
Sean MCGLADE
Alex NG
Jordan NGUYEN
Erik PATTERSON

Diluxan RAMANAN
Lakshmi VEMURI
Michael VLAHOS
Jack WEBSTER

Student Representative Council (SRC) and House Captains:

We are also progressing with electing our SRC members and House Captains for 2022.

Mr Morales has sent out an expression of interest to all students in Year 7 -11 for SRC Representatives from each year group. We will then interview students so be sure to encourage your son to think about becoming a student leader and continuing the student voice led initiatives at HBHS.

We are also currently looking for 2022 House Captains and Vice Captains. Ms Napoli will be leading this process. Those eligible to apply are:

House Captain – Year 11 and Year 12 students in 2022

House Vice Captains – Year 10 and Year 11 students in 2022.

All of our elected House and Vice House Captains will help at Athletics and Swimming Carnivals, assist the Sports Captain of the School and help as part of the leadership team at events at School. This is another great opportunity for your son to take on a leadership role and represent their peers at school. There are so many opportunities for your sons to be part of Leadership groups and we value student voice at HBHS.

At the conclusion of the term, I wish our students and families a safe and happy holiday. Please take the time to step away from screens and devices, and relax ready for term 4. School resumes on Monday 4th October. We will still be learning remotely so students will follow their timetable each day, logging into zoom classes and checking their google classroom from their teachers.

Stay safe and enjoy your break.



Ms Jennie Dalamagas Deputy Principal (Year 7 & 10)



Term 3 is coming to a close, and all I can think of is 'Where has this year gone?' It definitely has gone far too quickly for me, even though the majority has been spent working from home. It will be great to see our students return next term where the normal mode of teaching and learning can once again take place onsite.

It has been great to see our students during our weekly ZOOM meetings with our Year Advisors, Counsellors, Ms DiBiasi, who is our Student Support Officer and Mr Elgood all providing support and encouragement. Our students have also greatly benefitted from our *Wellbeing Wednesday* initiative and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the parents who emailed the school to acknowledge this, and how it has positively affected their son/s emotional and psychological wellbeing, as well as providing an opportunity to catch up on all class tasks.

SASS Recognition Week – Term 3 Week 9



I would like to recognise the essential work of our School Administrative and Support Staff, including our General Assistants for their continuous dedication with assisting Homebush Boys High School in clearly creating an environment that helps our students feel known, valued and cared for. A **huge thank you** for your significant roles in preparing our students for the next stage in their learning pathways.

Year 10 Subject Selection

Mr Elgood and I have been trying extremely hard to ensure that most of our Year 10 students get to do the majority of their selected subjects in Year 11 2022. This is not an easy feat as there are over 200 students in Year 10 with a selection of over 50 subjects to choose from. However, in the senior years class requirements do differ to those in Years 7-10. The maximum number in a class is 24 students, and at times we don't achieve the minimum number to feasibly have a class timetabled. It is sad that due to low numbers some of the subjects will not be running in 2022. Due to this some students will need to reselect a subject.

I have had many discussions with parents on the various subjects for 2022, as well as on ATAR and non-ATAR pathways to ensure their sons have made the correct selection of subjects. It has been a great pleasure having these conversations and definitely in assisting or clarifying this educational area of their son's schooling.

I would also like to remind parents that students will have an opportunity to change some of their subjects after Week 3 in Term 1 2022. My conversations in regards to this topic have also provided the warning that making correct initial choices would be advantageous as changing too many subjects after Week 3 would mean having to catch up on all missed work. I would recommend not changing more than 2 subjects if any at all.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents and Year 10 students for their cooperation on this matter.

Hope to see all our students back to school during Term 4 for face-to-face learning.

Regards,

J Dalamagas

12KORC1	12HOSV2 - BOLM	12MHI1 - NAPL	12HOSV3 - HOU
12KORL1 - YUYE	12MH12 - SYML	12MUS11	12IPT1 - SINR
12LST1 - DUCP	12NSWSLJAB	12MUS21	12KORB1
12NSWUTLN	12PDH1 - CUNE	12NSWSLJA5	12KORC - YUYE
12SD11 - ARUA	12PDH2 - FITK	12SLR22 - WILB	12PHY2 - PATK
12SLR21 - MICA	12PHY1 - SINI	12MAX1B - DOO	12VAR2 - LETA
12SOR21 - COUM	12VAR1 - JOHL		
	12VAR3 - LETA		
AHI:2 (20)	EAL (19)	BIO:3 (16)	MUS1 (15)
BIO:1 (14)	ENA:1 (14)	BSSV (7)	MUS2 (1)
BST:4 (21)	ENA:2 (14)	BST:1 (22)	BIO:4 (15)
CONV (11)	ENS:1 (21)	CHE:2 (18)	BST:3 (21)
HOSV:1 (12)	ENS:2 (21)	ESA (16)	CHE:1 (17)
HOSV:2 (11)	ENS:3 (21)	IPT (21)	GEO (11)
INSC (11)	ENS:4 (21)	MHI:2 (19)	LST (20)
MHI:1 (19)	ENS:5 (21)	SOR2 (18)	PDH:1 (16)
	GETUP (10)	VAR:4 (10)	PDH:3 (15)

Mr. Chabes Elaro

Rel. Deputy Principal (Year 9 & 12)



It is hard to believe that we have been engaged in online learning and teaching for a whole term by the time you read this. Ten weeks of, traditionally, the busiest term have been spent away from school, as teachers and students, and the greater Sydney area, were in a lockdown with the strictest restrictions we have ever had in NSW. The length of this lockdown is a new experience for everyone – parents, students, teachers, office staff, etc. And it did take 4 or 5 weeks for everyone to adapt to the new conditions. And it seems like half of next term will be the same.

There has been a tremendous amount of organisation and support offered by the school community to our parents and students this term. This is in addition to the teaching loads that manifested into endless Zoom lessons and countless tasks on Google Classrooms. I am so proud of our teaching and support staff for facing and overcoming the numerous challenges, maintaining high expectations and still conscious of the many wellbeing issues experienced by staff and students. It is also exhilarating to note that the majority of our students have adapted well to this prolonged online learning, reflecting a great amount of maturity and discipline. I also have to commend the parents and care-providers, who often have to juggle work commitments, looking after more than one child whilst also trying to keep them safe, engaged in their learning and trying to stay sane.

Ultimately, getting this far is a result of everyone working together and doing the best they can. The Bushy Boy spirit is alive and well in all members of the Homebush community. It is something that should make us all feel very proud.

Year 12

Year 12 students have faced the most changes. The uncertainties associated with the HSC exams, the changes in trials, not knowing if there will be opportunities for farewells from the school, and now the delay in the final exams, have had detrimental effects on all the students. But term 4 looks clearer. By now the updated HSC exams timetable has been published and we know that Year 12 can return to school on Monday 25 October, 2 weeks before their HSC begins.



Ms Kumaralingam and Ms Karas are planning the return to school and the formalities for Year 12. In weeks 9 and 10 they surveyed Year 12 about a variety of issues that included their thoughts about the practice trial exams, the weeks leading up to the HSC exams, when they would like the farewell from school and what they thought about online learning this term. We are using the students' feedback to help us best cater for them in the 5 weeks leading up to their first HSC exam on Tuesday 9 November. More information will be emailed to students and parents. As well, Ms Kumaralingam and Ms Karas will upload information to the Year 12 Google Classroom, as they have done all term.

I can't thank Ms Kumaralingam and Ms Karas enough for their tireless work in offering extra support to all Year 12 students during online learning; for offering all the support they can; for constantly checking on students and their situations at home. Year 12, your time as students of Homebush Boys is nearing its end. Make the most of any opportunities offered, make the most of the learning experiences and enjoy the festivities on offer. And never forget that you are a Bushy Boy and always will be. I look forward to accompanying you on the last part of your journey as Bushy Boys.

Year 9

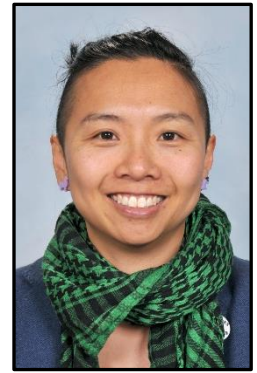
Year 9 students have continued their online learning. Majority of the students have adapted extremely well to the new ways of learning. Ms Coutinho and Ms Jang have worked enormously hard to keep the students engaged with a mixture of fun and cognitive activities. These activities were uploaded every couple of days. Many thanks to Ms Coutinho and Ms Jang for all their hard work and innovations in looking after all the students in Year 9.

Year 9, it is vital that you continue to connect with the Zoom lessons and complete all the work on the Google Classroom in each of your subject. This is important for many reasons. You need to have a balance in your life – work and play complement each other. Also, you need to continue to develop all your skills in each subject so that you are prepared for the demands of the Year 10 subjects. And completing all you work, as well as reading regularly, will help you pass the long hours spent at home during this lockdown. Ultimately, try to do something each day that will help you become a better person. This is a tip for the rest of your life. And if you have any concerns or would like your teacher's help, contact them or us at school.

Cheiban Elaro
Rel DP



Ms Emily Yong
Rel. H/T English
Refugee Co-ordinator



Ms Catherine Lea

The Literacy Garden: A story of hope



When life springs up in the wilderness, it is a sign of hope to us all in hard times. When a young student patiently nurtures this fragile shoot of nature, that hope becomes a beacon of light. We can flourish together with a little patient attention to the good things in our life.

The wilderness is the dirt patch outside the demountable classroom, 68A, that has become home to the Literacy and Learning Fitness classes for Year 8 and 9, and the pile of bark chips mouldering away beside the car park nearby. Over the past three years boys have been shifting mulch from the pile to the earth around the classroom, planting seeds and cuttings, and feeding and watering them. Other boys have been learning not to walk on them. Learning a little slowly at times!

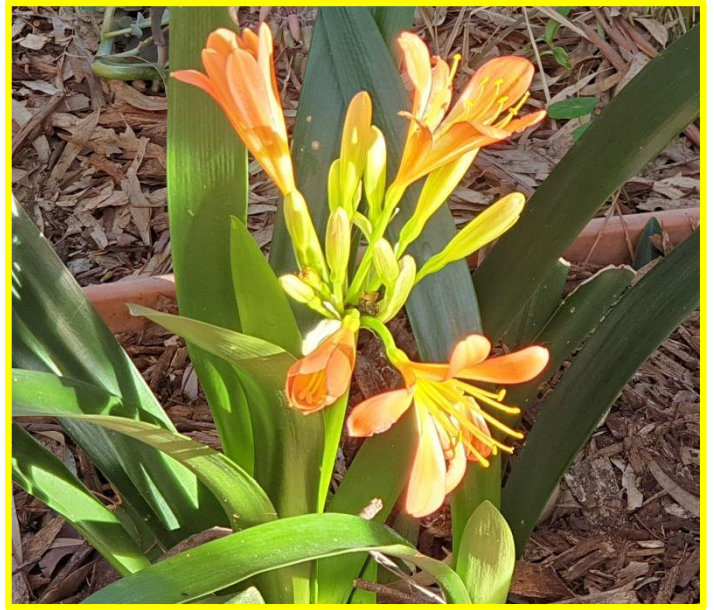
Many hands have helped, but Hadi Margan, Sam Huiwon Lee, Oscar Hwang, Jayden Kim, Sunny Koppela, Rohith Penugodu, Umar Shah, Ahmed Chaker and Yousef Ahmed deserve a special mention. Hadi and Sam were devoted to the garden in Year 9, but strangely enough, other students occasionally chose digging over writing. Muhammad Eid was always eager to help, as was Adam Saadedine. Raymond Chau was also willing to sacrifice his education for the greater good. It was hard to turn down such generous offers of help, but occasionally pen and paper learning had to come first!

The garden remains small. Conditions are tough, but the boys now see there is some green there, and try to walk on the path. During lockdown the plants have had a chance to recover, but there have been long dry periods. I came in one day to water the garden and asked for help from the few boys at school. Corey Nielsen and Ghazi Youssef willingly obliged. While they were digging some more mulch in the carpark Corey found a tiny banksia seeding which we transplanted to a pot in the garden. Natives are usually very hard to transplant; they don't like to be disturbed. The boys took great care, but I doubted it would survive.

Three weeks later I returned. There was the tiny plant, still green and upright. Ghazi had watered it every second day, using empty milk bottles I had left with him. No-one reminded him, but he remembered anyway and took care to nurture this small sign of resilience he had helped to discover. I should not have been surprised; our boys are deeply caring. They look out for one another, and so here was Ghazi, looking out for this small and fragile bit of life, that we hope will make our learning environment more interesting and more beautiful.

Thanks Ghazi! Thank you to all the boys who have volunteered to help, even those who were made to stay at their desks! And may you all persevere in your efforts to nurture the life around you: your own growing brains, your hopes, dreams and good intentions, your siblings, especially those small brothers and sisters who make study and work so hard, your parents and your grandparents, your aunties and uncles. Many of you take great care of your friends too and may find this time especially hard for that reason. I hope this story brings hope that life can thrive in tough conditions, with a little help.

Wherever they are, humans like to garden. we would starve otherwise. Gardens feed our spirit as well as our body. If you can, get your hands dirty. A seed in a pot, your grandma's succulent garden, dandelions in a crack in the footpath: take notice of the life around you and consider how you can help it to flourish. Nurturing it, you will nurture yourself.



Ms Michelle Coutinho

HSIE Teacher

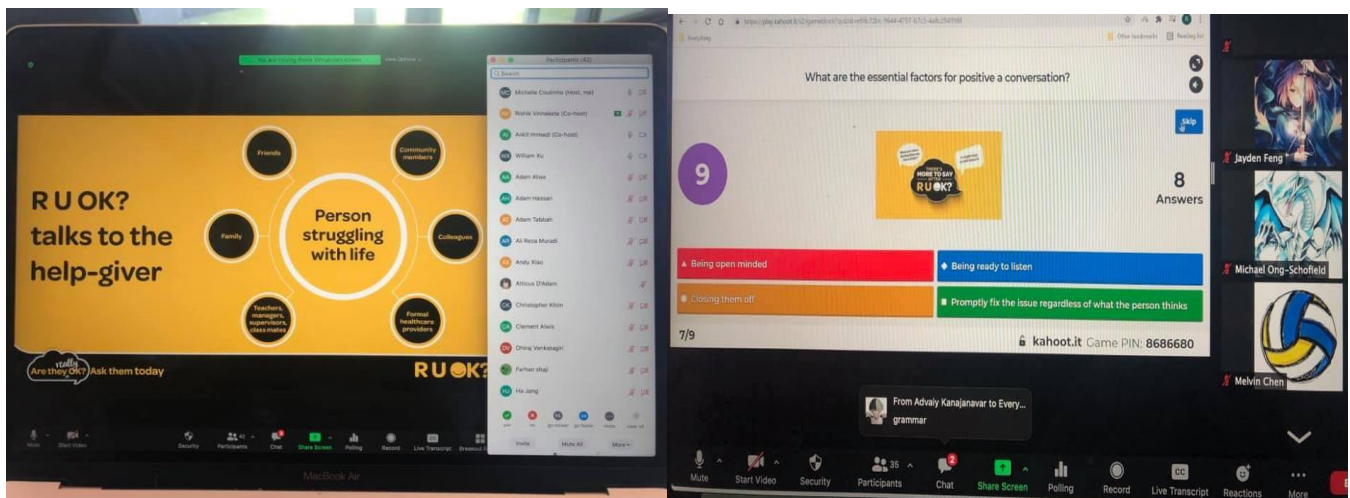
Year 9 Adviser



Term 3 of 2021 will definitely be a term to remember. Through the challenges of online learning and lockdowns, Year 9 have continued to persevere and strive. They have shown such resilience and commitment during this unprecedented time for education. During the term, I have kept the boys busy and had different fun activities happening each week. We have had workout days, scavenger hunts, year assemblies, Kahoot sessions, and different competitions running. Below is a bit of a snapshot of the past few weeks. A reminder also that Year 9 students can apply for SRC and House Vice Captains. I encourage all boys to apply as I know we have such great leaders who would be perfect for these roles.

R U OK Day

Year 9 had a special assembly for RUOK Day. RUOK Day is our National Day of Action dedicated to reminding everyone that every day is the day to ask, "Are you OK?" and support those struggling with life's ups and downs. I think given the term that we have all had with online learning and lockdowns, it is especially important now that we all check in on one another and ask R U OK? I was contacted by two students in Year 9, **Ankit Immadi** and **Rishik Vinnakota** who wanted to co-host an event for R U OK Day. We organised a year group assembly where Ankit and Rishik made their own presentation, quiz and Kahoot to engage their peers on the importance of mental health and checking in on each other. Year 9 came up with ways to start up conversations and how to get support. I am beyond proud of these boys for initiating such a great event and also proud of the Year 9 boys who attended and showed such maturity during these conversations.



Trickshot Competitions



Year 9 have been getting involved in some trickshot competitions. The boys have been able to choose their trick and have to take a video of them completing it. There have been some really great entries and I have been blown away by the level of talent in Year 9. One particular video that stood out is that of **Hussain Rahimi**. He was a winner in one of the Trickshot Competitions and did an impressive skill of bouncing a ping pong ball on several pans and getting a slam dunk into a cup! After 1 hour and 16 minutes, Hussain did the trick flawlessly demonstrating the importance of perseverance and dedication! You can watch his talent on the school Facebook page where he has become very popular. The local community was so impressed that his video is being shown to primary schools to see if their students can take up his trickshot challenge. Good work Hussain!

Who's that baby? Teacher and Student competition

Year 9 have been playing a 'Who's that baby?' guessing game. This was a game Ms Jang (Year 9 Adviser Assistant) and I put together. We asked the Year 9 boys to send through their baby photos and then their peers had to guess the student in each baby photo. We had lots of boys playing along and I was very pleased with the results. 8 boys in the year group were able to correctly guess all 18 students in the photos! The winners were - **Mohammed Abul Khair Mir, Chris Jung, Christopher Khim, Haram Kim, Hugo Klanmalee, Yashaswin Sama, Farhan Shaji, Dhiraj Venkatagiri and William Xu.**

The game was so much fun that we decided to run the same game for teachers. The boys played along also but this one was a lot trickier for them. I opened it up to students in all years and the winning student was **Adem Cevik** in Year 9. He guessed 8 out of 17 teachers. Well done Adem!

Online Learning - the experience this term from a Year 9 perspective



"With this shift in learning which all students in the state have faced, I have learnt to overcome and adapt to this new learning environment, and to try and learn and be as productive as I can be. As part of Commerce and Geography, it has been an interesting and different change from the classroom environment sitting in my school uniform to my desk at home in pyjamas, where there is the struggle to stay motivated and vigilant has never been more difficult. Despite this, my teachers Ms Duch and Ms Coutinho have strived to create an interactive learning environment enabling me to continue my journey in Commerce learning about running a business and the process to run one and in Geography exploring the different facets of human wellbeing and how it varies over different countries. I will take this period in my high school journey as a once in a lifetime experience and try to learn as many things as I can from this time of uncertainty. I look forward to overcoming challenges that come my way and exploring new ways to explore means of connecting with my peers, something which I miss from in person learning". **Arnav Trivedi - Year 9**

Ms Christina Papavramidis

Head Teacher HSIE



Online Learning in Year 11 Business Studies Written by Shakthikram Kulandaivel

COVID 19 has changed education and the way we learn forever. This has been obvious during our Business Studies classes where Mrs Papavramidis has been hard at work, trying to derive the formula for making her lessons interactive and engaging through a shared screen. As a result, we students have never felt disengaged, the lessons created have been varied and creative, captivating the interests of the students and keeping them focussed for the entire lesson.

During each lesson, our teacher has put together a range of multiple-choice questions in order to test our knowledge on the subject matter taught during the lesson. She asks us to answer the questions quickly, and if we obtain the correct answer, she provides us with one point, which equates to a fictitious dollar, which gets added to the previous lessons tally. These fun initiatives of creating games at the end of each PowerPoint has been pivotal in keeping us interested during the lessons.

I want to thank Mrs Papavramidis sincerely, for making online learning as simple as face-to-face learning was. We, as students, are so eager to get back to school and appreciate the work you have done throughout continuous lockdowns.

Why is financial management important to business?

- ★ A. It is necessary for the proper recording, monitoring, summarising and analysis of financial aspects of the business.
- B. It is for the owners to see where the costs are highest so that they can focus on cost reductions.
- C. The financial goals are the most important objectives, so financial management must be important.
- D. Only financial management can control operations, marketing and the human resource functions properly.

Objectives or goals can be broken down by business function. For example, there can be:

- Marketing goals
- Human resources objectives
- Operations goals.

Objectives may be short-term or long-term. Short-term goals, such as cash flow, support longer term goals like profitability and growth. Once profitability has been achieved then it will be an annual target.

Goals are sometimes characterised as best when they are 'SMART'

Specific	Measurable	Achievable	Realistic	Timely
S	M	A	R	T
G	O	A	L	S
What do you want to do?	How will you know when you've reached it?	Is it in your power to accomplish it?	Can you realistically achieve it?	When exactly do you want to accomplish it?



Year 11 Jeopardy

Key Verbs and Management Processes revision

Key Verbs	HR	Operations	Finance	Marketing
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

Year 11 Geography
Written by William Knight

Approaching our 12th week in lockdown, I believe many students are feeling the same as me, missing the social interaction of the classroom, conversations with friends, teachers, and conversations as we are learning. In my Geography classes, I'm grateful that the feeling of being in person is replicated as well as it can be with the constraints of online learning. The lessons are informative, concise, and direct; however, it still maintains the discussions, conversations, and interactions we would have had in the classroom that so many of us miss. It is sometimes easy to forget that school is not just a place to learn, but to be social, to talk, to understand others and appreciate the company of our peers.

During online learning, I enjoyed a task where students were paired up to research a topic for the unit 'Cultural Integration', create an informative PowerPoint and then present it to the class during a ZOOM lesson. The task fostered an environment similar to that of a classroom and encouraged engagement. It was interactive, informative, and allowed us to be creative. Tasks like these encourage students to expand their knowledge, become specialists and interact with the class at a level similar to that of a normal face-to-face class. Group work is another element of school I have missed, through tasks like these, that social element is restored, allowing for communicate and refining our collaboration skills within the constraints of online learning.



MEDIA AS A PART OF CULTURE

William Knight and Sean McGlade



The Australian and international media in one photo (might as well end the PowerPoint here)

To what extent can media influence public perception.

- Media's very constructs lie in ensuring a profit margin in maintained. To do this they must maintain corporate interests, maintain the interests of their donors (mostly major companies) and posting the most controversial news.
- Are not a force for morality- they are a force for profit.
- Therefore their goals are often not to portray the truth, expose injustices or provide balanced views, rather to satisfy their financial incentives and maintain a strong profit margin.



The Positives of Media

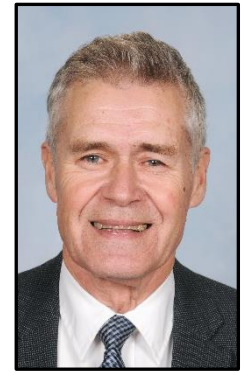
- The media of a country is only effective and completely beneficial when...
 - It is strong and diverse- no media monopolies are present and diverse views are perpetuated
 - They serve to inform the public rather than satisfy their donors or shareholders
 - Are not affiliated with any political party
 - Have a strong system of fact checking
 - Are conscious of their immense power to change views about culture, politics, etc.



Major Media Powers

- News Corp
 - Fox News
 - Sky News
 - News.com.au
 - The Australian
 - Local Newspapers
 - Owns companies in Europe, Britain and Asia.

I am grateful for being in a school with teachers that go above and beyond to ensure my success, learning and happiness in such difficult times, I could not imagine how lockdown would be without their efforts and hard work.



Literacy & numeracy program

Parents

Well, we are still in remote-learning, and at present the forecast seems to be that this will continue for most students until the end of Week 5, Term 4. So, there is still some way to go – and it is literacy & numeracy skills that we least want to slip!

Year 7:

Remember it is still important for all Year 7 students to continue their **home reading program**, for 20 minutes per day, wherever possible using the MyOn virtual library to access their Accelerated Reader books. Again, during remote-learning, it will not be possible to complete the reader comprehension quizzes, but the reading needs to continue!



Year 7 & 8 students:

This is a reminder that, at least during remote-schooling, **weekly literacy & numeracy quizzes** will continue to be posted on the Google Classroom platform, for all Year 7 and 8 students. Each quiz will take roughly 15 minutes to complete, and all students and parents have been emailed the classroom join-codes. Scores and feedback from each quiz are provided to students instantly, and the data will assist the school to track individual progress.

Parents, please continue to encourage and remind your sons to complete these weekly quizzes! The aim is to make available a report to all parents, possibly through the parent portal, on their sons' participation and progress in this program, by the end of this Term. Further advice about this will be emailed to parents shortly.

Year 7 & 9 students:

Student reports from this year's **NAPLAN On-line tests** should be arriving in schools before long. Then, as soon as is practicable, these reports will be passed on to parents. The process is a little more complicated this year, due to current Covid-effects, but there will be as little delay as possible.

Year 7, 8 & 9 students needing extra support:

Some students in Years 7, 8 & 9 have been identified as **needing extra support** in one or other area of literacy and numeracy. Many of these students and their parents will already have been contacted by the school, to offer this support.

Parents, if your son has been offered extra support (especially in writing), *please encourage him to take it!* This is one thing that should not be put off until later, considering the likely effect it will have on his future schooling.

Year 10 & 11 students:

This is a further reminder that achievement of **Minimum Standards in reading, writing and numeracy** remains a requirement for the award of the Higher School Certificate, in spite of remote-learning. Support materials have been sent, by email, to all students still to achieve Minimum Standards in one or more areas, and they have been asked to communicate with Mr Bawden if they have any queries, or when returning work for marking.

Minimum Standards catch-up tests will be held as soon as possible after normal schooling resumes – so all affected students should make sure that they are ready! Parents are invited to contact Mr Bawden, if they have queries about their sons' Minimum Standards status or support needs.



These are challenging times! Parents, if you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mr Bawden (Literacy/numeracy Support Person) via the school email address. Your considerable efforts to support your sons' remote-schooling are enormously valued!



Ms Lucy Napoli Sport Co-Ordinator



As part of Wellbeing Wednesday in Week 8, we ran some sport and fitness sessions for all year groups. Physical activity is so important for both mental wellbeing and overall health, especially during this lockdown period. They were well attended by both staff and students and was a great opportunity for all of us to get in some exercise from our homes and cheer each other on! We did a 50 challenge, tried to balance rolls of toilet paper, and finished off with Sally for some leg burning squats. Cannot wait to see everyone back for fitness round 2 on Wellbeing Wednesday Week 10!

I am also very happy to announce that House Captain and Vice-Captain nominations open this week. Students who will be in Years 10 and 11 in 2022 are able to nominate for House Vice Captain, and students in Years 11 and 12 2022 can nominate for the role of House Captain. Application forms can be obtained from the Google Classroom for your year cohorts.

Ms Lucy Napoli

History Teacher



As we come to the end of Term 3, having spent its entirety in lockdown, it is a great opportunity to reflect on what students have achieved in HSIE. They have shown their adaptability to quickly move and respond to learning online and connecting over Zoom while we all stay safe from home.

Students in Year 10 have been studying the role of the United Nations, the American Civil Rights Movement, and the struggles for equality faced by Indigenous Australians.

Students reflected on the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, below is Venkatvidipreddy Mallemla's response:

The three most important Human Rights I believe are:

- *You have the right to freedom of opinion and expression.*
- *No one shall be held in slavery or servitude.*
- *Everyone is born free and equal in dignity and with rights.*

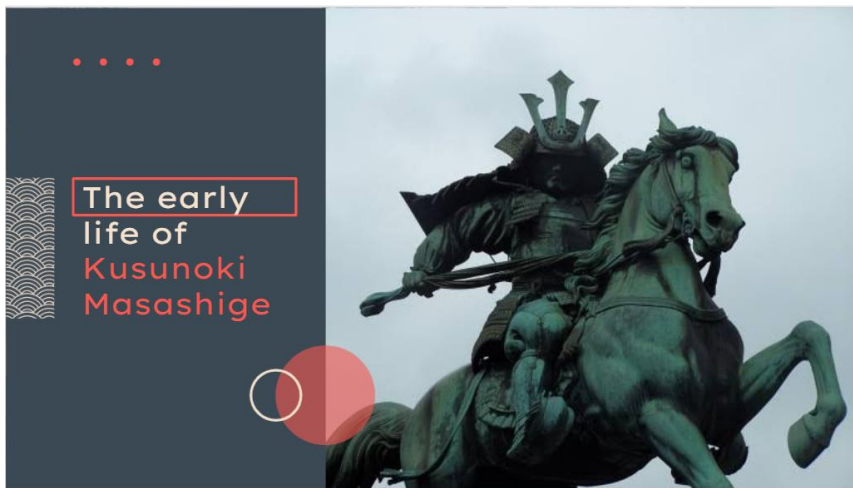
These are the three most important rights as these rights align with my numerous core values and are the centrepiece to all the other rights. The right to freedom of opinion and expression is important as it plays a great role in the development of a society. If you did not express your feeling and ideas, our society would never change. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude is another important right as we have witnessed the destruction of slavery in the past and how it has affected many generations. We do not want any more slavery so that is why this one of the most important rights. Finally, everyone is born free and equal in dignity and with rights is the most important as it states that everyone is equal. This is the centre right and all the other rights grow from this particular one. This is why I believe these three rights are the most important.

Our Year 8 students have spent the term exploring the history of Japan during the period under the rule of the Shoguns all the way through to the restoration of the Emperor. They successfully completed their third assessment task, examining the lives of Samurai and aspects of society during Japan's Medieval period.

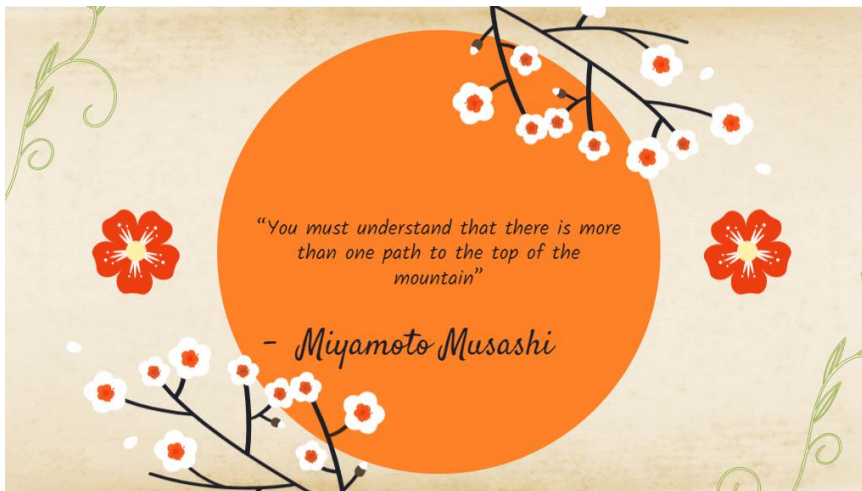
Year 8 student, Dhananjay Vijayan, describes his experiences learning History from home:

Throughout this term I had learnt and discovered more about the Japanese feudal systems as well as everyone's roles and places within their society. Throughout lock-down I had felt confused in many places as online learning seemed like an experience I would forget after last year. I had found history a very adaptable subject to both school and online school learning as we have a zoom explaining what we will do each lesson. I also find it amazing that in history we get quick responses to our questions and detailed explanations within zoom. I can proudly say that one of the most comfortable, interactive and adaptable subjects during lock down would be history.

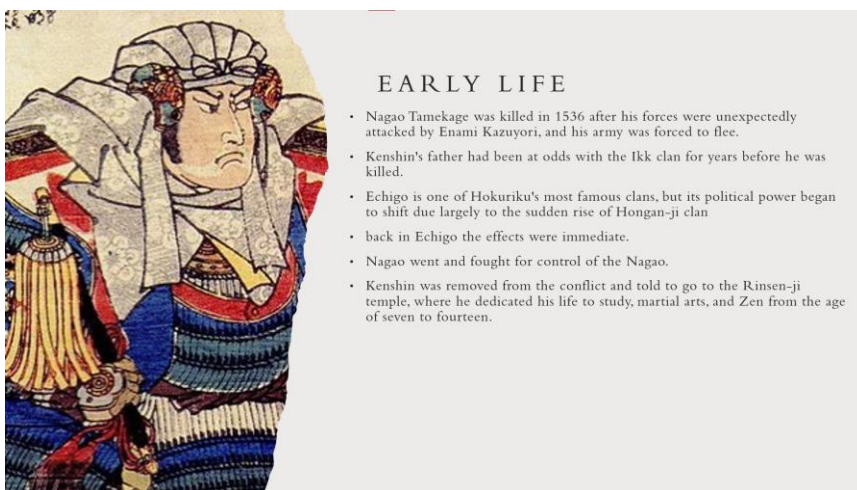
Below are some examples of the work that Year 8 History students Zach Kennerson, Yagin Ha and Abraham Mok have done this term.



Zach Kennerson



Yagin Ha



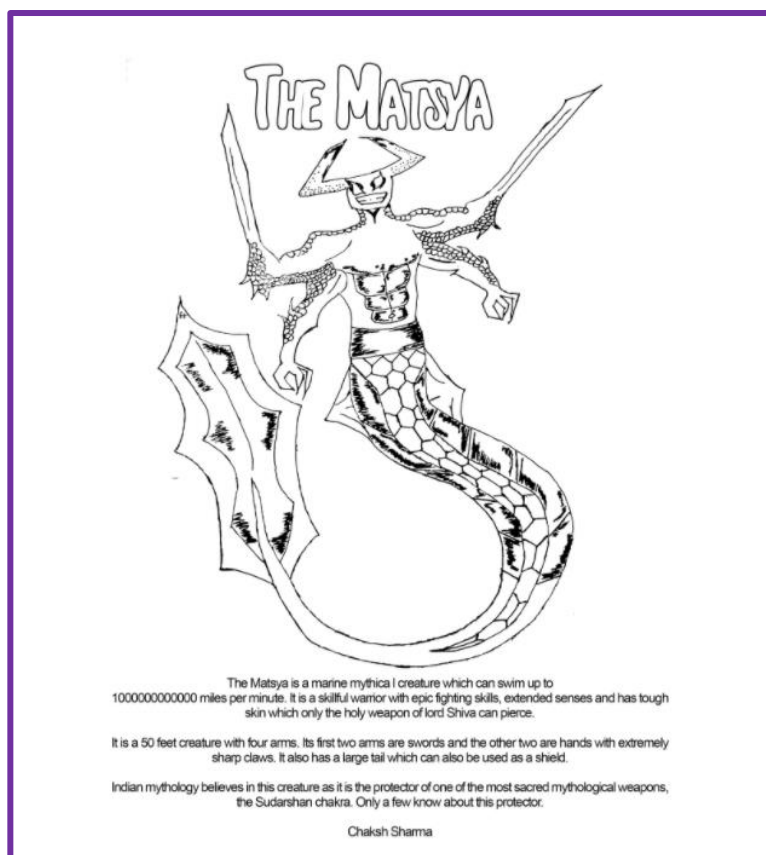
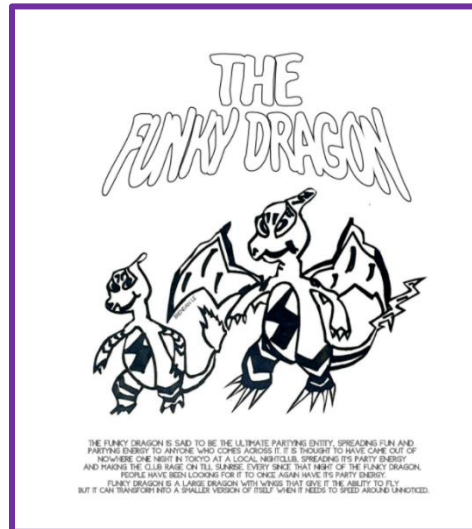
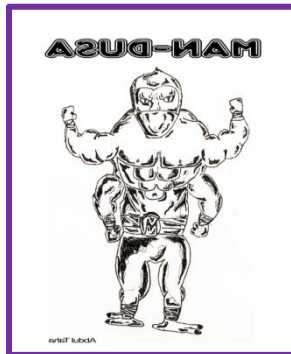
Abraham Mok

We are very proud of what all students have achieved this term in the face of all the challenges presented. Looking forward to welcoming students back into the classroom once it is safe to do so.

Mr Johnson

Creative and Performing Arts

Year 8 have continued their brilliant work on creating New Legends. The students really got involved in this task and produced some great work. Here are some colouring-in pages for the boys' younger siblings. An incredible group of Year 8 with great imaginations. Well done Year 8.



The Nine-Tailed Ghost



The nine-tailed ghost is a short nine-tailed creature that has the ability to turn into a ghost. It is said that campers and hikers who make too much noise near its cave get eaten.

The nine-tailed ghost shoots an energy ball from its mouth if anyone gets near its cave. On some days the nine-tailed ghost is said to be lurking in the cities as a ghost.

Yusuf Ha



Yaliniyan JASEETHARAN

ACRABOONE



No one believes in this mythical creature as it remains anonymous from the world. It hides its identity from humans and other civilians. The creature is only known to its creator, the mad scientist (me).

Rhdhwan Sikder

Monique McQueen Teacher Librarian



The Shelfie Project

As part of Homebush Boys High School Book Week celebrations, The Shelfie Project which was organised by the Library team was enjoyed by our staff and students. The Shelfie project involved staff sharing a photo of their book shelf, the staff and students guessed whose shelf it was, then the owner of the shelf was revealed by a photo of them holding the book they were currently reading or a favourite book. This project was a great success with over 55 students and staff sharing their guesses over the two weeks. The winners received a book related prize.

This Shelfie project was designed to promote the importance of having books in our homes and spaces, different reading identities and that reading is a wonderful activity to engage in (including during lockdowns). We were treated to a view of the staffs' favourite books, interests and hobbies which lead to important connections in this time of remote learning and lockdown.

Thank you to the HBHS community for supporting this project that celebrated reading and books.

Ms Monique McQueen
Teacher Librarian



Ms Annabell Chapman Teacher PDHPE



PDHPE – Year 11 Community and Family Studies (CAFS)

During the course of the year students would normally sit for their end of preliminary examinations in the school hall. However, these are unusual circumstances and students needed to complete an online assessment task.



For the alternate task – students were asked to write out their answers instead of type them up.

The content we have covered this term is on Families and Communities. In particular we have focused on the different types of families, roles individuals adopt within families, communities and decision making and managing change in families and communities.

Our CAFS class showed great resilience in their learning throughout the term and managed to attend zoom classes and complete writing activities which used the ALARM (a learning and responding matrix). The students in this class should be very proud of all their hard work throughout the term and we look forward to welcoming them back to school for their HSC year.

Ms Chapman

Mr Abderrahim Abbou

Rel. Head Teacher

Technology and Applied Science



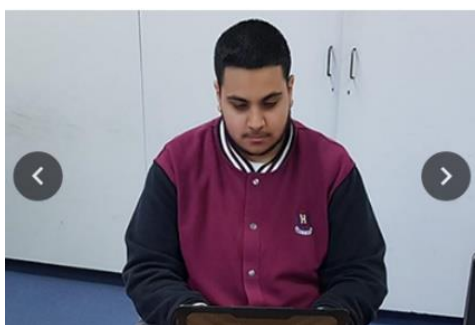
It has been a busy term for the entire school as well as for our TAS faculty under the Public Health Stay at Home order. In order to minimise the disruption to student learning during the current period, our faculty staff has put all efforts to help support students learn from home by creating online approaches to classroom programs.

Online learning offers the ability of access regardless of where students live, potentially providing opportunities for learning for all students. For the TAS teachers, it will be running a class as normal as long their students have internet connections at home, laptops they can work from, and teachers with experience and knowledge of how to engage and teach students online.

Therefore, learning from home will be a simple transition and extension of what they do in classrooms environment. However, the major issue that TAS faculty confronts when it comes to home learning is the practical components of all courses such as: Hospitality, Construction, Engineering Studies, Food Technology, Information & Software Technology, Industrial Technologies- Electronics, Metal and Timber that cannot be completed out of the classrooms and workshops.

During week 9 of term 3, Years 7 and 8 technology students have been moved to the third rotation to explore a variety of technologies throughout different specialisations. The students have been informed about their new specialisation and new teacher. The student timetable displays these details.

The NSW Vocational Student of the Year Award recognises an outstanding student's achievement in a course of study leading to a nationally recognised qualification and demonstrates the relevance of life-long learning. Congratulations to **Yusuf Shand** in Business Services and **Jackson Cooney** in Hospitality who have been acknowledged for their hard work and professional skills and obtained the 2021 VET Awards.



Yusuf Shand Business Services



Jackson Cooney Hospitality – Kitchen Operations

It was a hard year for the year 12 students, mostly the students who needed to complete practical component for their HSC course. You have done your best and I wish you all the best in the upcoming HSC Examinations and in your future endeavours.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students in different stages for their quick transition to online learning and their great engagement for most of them in remote learning.

At the end, I would like to thank all TAS teachers for their tremendous support and hard work with the students in this difficult time and make sure the students are excelling in their learning.



Year 10 IST completing an online quiz



Year 9 IST completing an online quiz

Rishik Vinnakota Year 9 IST

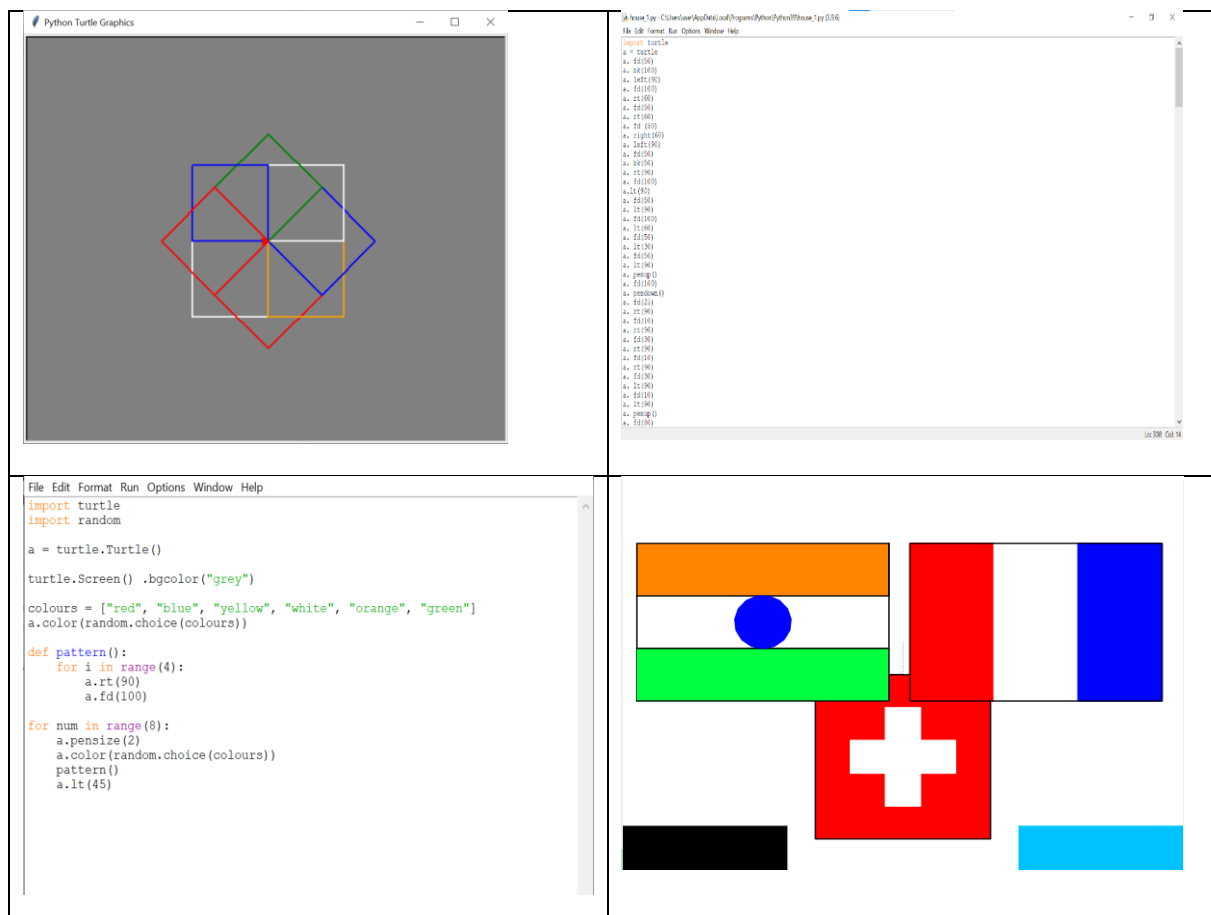
We, as a computing class, progressed from the fascinating topic of the software and hardware components of the computers as part of our curriculum were introduced to the incredible world of robotics.

During the early stages of the topic, as part of a thorough introduction, our IST class was introduced to the Edison Version 2.0®. These exciting creations are codable robots which requires students to create various lengthy codes to allow its operation. With the help of these robots, we were introduced to various programming languages such as Ed Blocks®, Ed Py® and Ed Scratch®. These programming languages allowed us, students, to gain hands on experience and allow our creativity to flourish with the unlimited possibilities and paths that one can take. They were also great tools to promote a wide array of skills such as: teamwork, problem-solving, troubleshooting, critical thinking and many more that are sure to be useful in various aspects of life including, employment and higher education. The excellent program has been challenging and at the same time entertaining as it provided us with insights into programming and various platforms available.



While the program was planned to be practised further during term 3, the lockdown had a profuse impact on the program and caused us to switch to a different yet similar topic-coding using python. Our focus during this term was programming the turtle library of the vast array of python modules. During this time, we were continuously engaged through Zoom classes that involved our teacher, Mr. Abbou, going through the various activities, drawings and code the turtle can follow.

Some examples of python coded creations



These classes motivated us to move forward even during the testing times and also create the interesting designs upon our mind's will. Our knowledge about the platform was further strengthened with the use of the GROK learning software. This is an engaging programming software that is apt for home learning mainly for fun practice and fluency. Some examples of activities completed have been included below.

This program with easy to understand and learn instructions has made it easy for us to grasp the content and make sure to assist us when we make mistakes during the marking phase of the program. With the help of this program, we have also gained insights into how virtual pets function with BCC Micro bit python library. The application, at first, provided us the basics and helped us work up the ladder with complex problems. Some images have been included below.

```
program.py >
from microbit import *
display.show(Image.SNAKE)
```

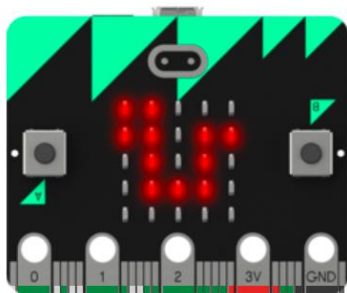
Submissions Output Simulator

GROK
Hour of Code: Virtual Pet

Feelings

Here are more images you can use to show how your pet is feeling:

Name	Image	Name	Image
Image.HAPPY		Image.ASLEEP	
Image.SAD		Image.SURPRISED	
Image.CONFUSED		Image.FABULOUS	
Image.SILLY		Image.MEH	
Image.ANGRY		Image.HEART	

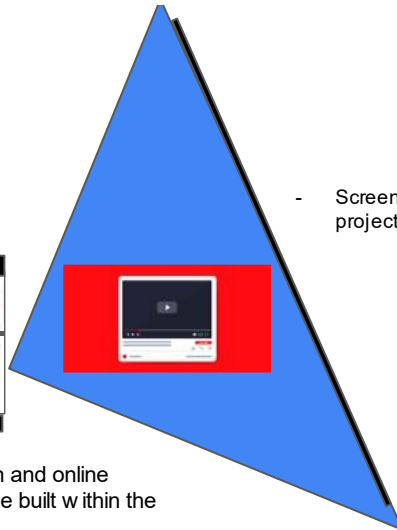
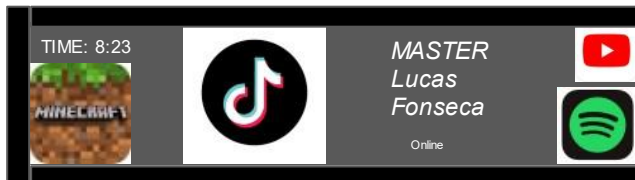


These programs along with our teacher's support made it easy for us as class to move forward during the lockdown times and helped us perform to the best of our ability.

Ideas of the FUTURE PHONES as suggested by the Year-8 ELECTRONIC'S STUDENTS

DESIGN A PHONE IN 2040.

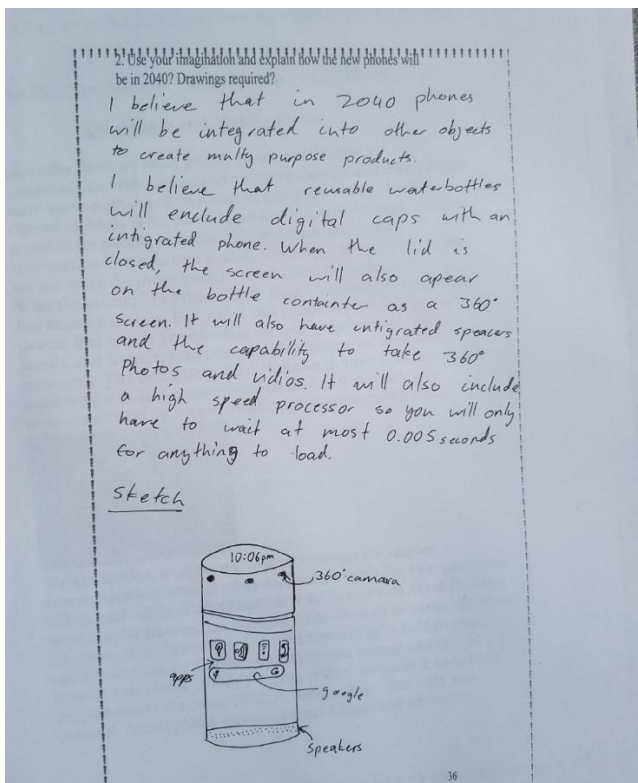
- Small screen indicates futuristic builds.



- Screen emitting as a projection.

- Apps are swiped to the right side.
- Recognition and online systems are built within the phone.

By Lucas Fonseca Year-8 Electronics 2021



By Naveen Jegendran Year-8 Electronics 2021

CELL PHONE /MOBILE PHONE

- 1) A cell phone is a handheld wireless communication device
- 2) it got its name from the word cells. The cells help with the communication
- 3) a walkie talkie only allows one person to be able to talk at the same time. The cell phone uses 2 frequencies which allow people to speak at the same time
- 4) Martin cooper created the first phone he was an engineer. Martin worked for Motorola making phones
- 5) The first phone was invented on April 3rd, 1973
- 6) People thought he was mad; they were curious and gazed at it while he walked down the streets of NY
- 7) The first cell phone was 2 and a half pounds which is a lot heavier than the phones today
- 8) Cell phones have 7 major parts
- 9) the circuit board is the most important part of a phone this is because it is like the heart of the phone
- 10) The microprocessor handles the keys and actions you tell your phone to do.
- 11) When you speak through your phone the radio waves go through the receiver at a station, the tower sends your calls through a series of networks until it reaches the person you are calling.
- 12) This is because a cell phone operates from cells, so when you move the signals are passed from one cell to another

I can do on my phone:

Call people	Use Facebook
Text people	Use Instagram
Facetime people	Use social media
Use chrome	Use lights
Search images	Type emojis
Play games	Draw
Use a map	Use notes
Read a book	Set an alarm
Watch YouTube	Use a calculator
Use fitness apps	Use a GPS

2.CELL PHONE OF THE FUTURE



Are very light
Click a button to use
Easy to bring around

https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https%3A%2F%2Fcdn.mos.cms.futurecdn.net%2FX8ajP3firD9QzBCipfEtPk.jpg&imgrefurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.techradar.com%2Fnews%2Fwhat-could-your-future-smartphone-look-like-in-2030&tbid=nBuUz01xMwl3rM&vet=12ahUKEwiw6ZGF187yAhXOnEsFHV_NCfEQMygAegUIARCuAQ..i&docid=TmFx4ouUo14WSM&w=4096&h=2160&q=futuristic%20phones%20by%202040&ved=2ahUKEwiw6ZGF187yAhXOnEsFHV_NCfEQMygAegUIARCuAQ

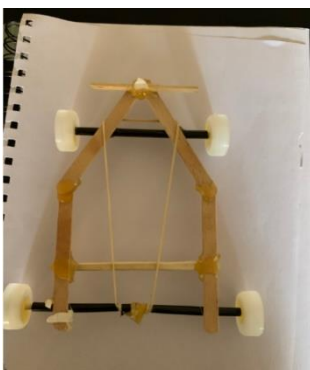
By Javan Zheng

Just have to speak to your phone and it will respond

Designed by Umar Rasul



Year 8 Technology – Engineered Systems by Mr. McFarlane



It's quite a challenge to move to online learning in Technology. Much of what we do, and certainly the most fun part is getting into the workshops and making things. One of the subjects the boys do in Year 8 is Engineered Systems. In Engineered systems the students learn about force, motion and energy as they build a mechanical toy.

I was so pleased to see students responding to the challenge of actually making something at home from everyday materials that they could access from around the house. Including a rubber band as the power source.

Being 'hands on' and solving real world problems is a big part of our subject area. So, after completing the theory work the boys were asked to design, make and test a Rubber band

Racer.

This is by **Ahash Thiyagalingum**. With some modifications to the design he was able to achieve a distance of 3.1 metres in 4.1 seconds. Bravo!

Learning IST from Home by Manav Parmar Year 10 IST

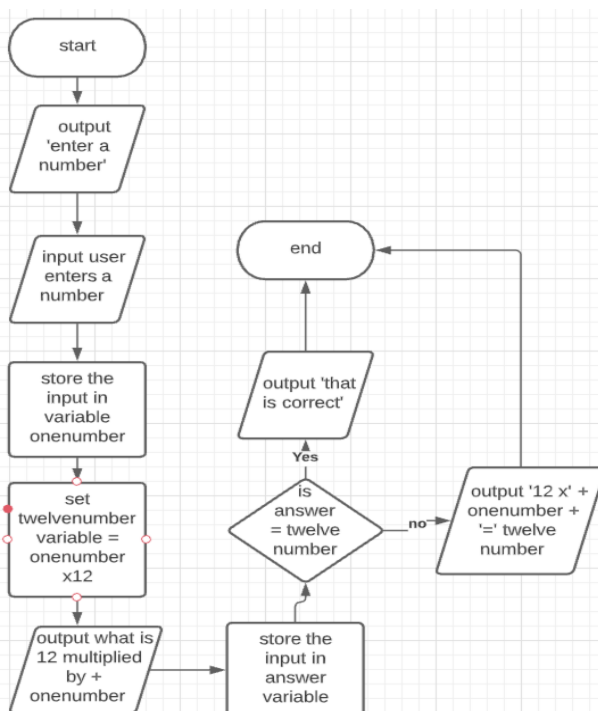
In times when dealing with a global pandemic, it is expected that we are able to change and adapt accordingly, with returning to remote learning impacting all students in NSW for the duration of Term 3. During this round of online learning, which is much longer than last year's, many subjects have had to change their style of teaching, and students studying IST have had to be flexible in the way they learned and the way they showed their work. For me, I found that studying IST from home was more challenging than I had expected. This term our unit was programming and I believe it is best learned in person as it involves a lot of trial and error. Despite these challenges I did enjoy studying the subject, completing the activities and having to solve problems using Python was quite fun. The experience was only made better when you are able to work with friends, which we could easily do over Zoom. Our teachers would also hold Zoom calls regularly to check in on us, not only for our work but just to see how we are coping with the lockdown and online learning. They were always very responsive and ready to answer any questions we had. Throughout this unit we often had to make codes to simulate various companies. One of such is an electric company, which we had to make for our assessment task. To prepare us for this final task, we not only learnt how to use Python but also how algorithms work, and how to use flow charts to display a solution to a presented problem. The only two issues I faced were that I had difficulty installing Python on my computer, which is an issue many of my peers also experienced, often bringing it up during our classes, but our teacher helped us work through it. The other issue was that my internet would cut out at times. Overall online learning has not really impacted my learning and I was able to get the same experience in IST by learning at home rather than at school.

```
print ("Welcome to Joe's electric services company")
print("\n")
cable = float(input("What length of cable would you like (metres)?:"))

outlets = int(input("How many power outlets would you like to be installed?:"))

switchboards = int(input("""What switch board would you like
1 for 160 amps
2 for 250 amps?
: """))

if switchboards == 1 :
    grosscost = (cable*12+outlets*5.5+740)
    gst = grosscost*0.1
    totalcost = grosscost+gst
    print ("The following services will cost you" ,totalcost,"dollars")
if switchboards == 2 :
    grosscost = (cable*12+outlets*5.5+2040)
    gst = grosscost*0.1
    totalcost = grosscost+gst
    print ("The following services will cost you" ,totalcost,"dollars")
```



Ms Sathya Kumaralingam
Year 12 Adviser



We are at the threshold, almost there, ready to face the big HSC and the world beyond it. In a non-Covid world our boys would have enjoyed and experienced many rites of passage, but, unfortunately, they may not experience many of the usual end of schooling activities, however, this has not broken them. They are holding strong, holding their heads up high and working with what they have.

Even in non-Covid times Term 3 is a very stressful period of time for any Year 12 student as it is their last term of regular schooling because they not only have their HSC Trials and HSC to study for but, they have to also get serious about planning and organising their tertiary education. This involves them filling in various application forms to get into their preferred university course using the various schemes that are available. Usually the Careers Adviser, Year Advisor, the Deputy Principal and all their teachers would be there physically giving them a hand during this very challenging period, but now these students have to do it online. These students are only receiving guidance from all of us at school virtually. Yet they are doing so well. Some of them have already applied and received acknowledgement of their applications for universities/TAFE.

They have not only been resilient; they have been virtually helping their peers too. I have never been so proud of our Year 12 cohort. I am confident these Year 12 students will rise up to the challenge and do their best in the upcoming HSC. I wish them all the best of luck.



While there's a lot going on at the moment that's out of our control
What we can control is our **commitment to drive safely**

Please remember to:

- Always use your **indicator**
- Never use your **mobile phone** illegally
- **Buckle up** whenever you get in the car
- Always wear a **helmet** and all the right **protective gear** when riding a cycle or motorbike

Road Safety is Everyone's Responsibility



Usha Arvind | Road Safety Officer
P 9748 9605 W Monday-Wednesday
65 Homebush Rd, Strathfield NSW 2135
www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Mr Sam Widmer

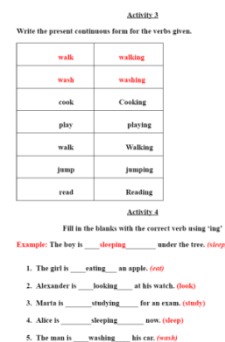
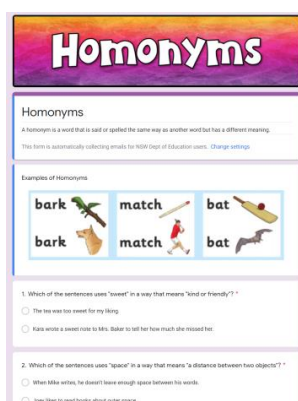
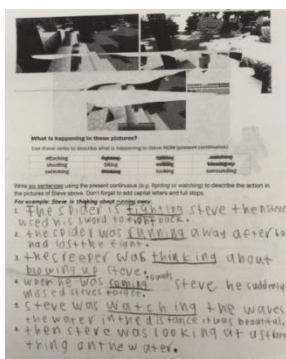
Head Teacher Support Unit



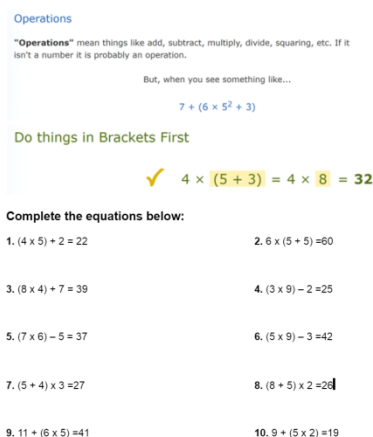
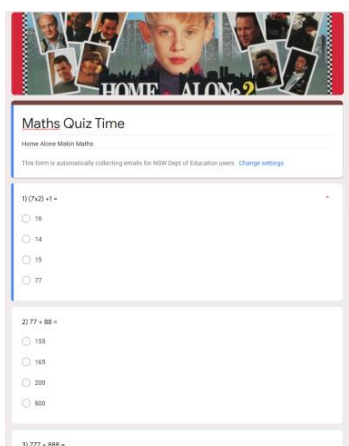
Students in the support unit have done a fantastic job learning online this term. They have submitted excellent pieces of work, communicated with their teachers using Google Classroom and Microsoft Teams and enjoyed various social games during online meetings. These games include games such as Kahoot, Skribbl and Uno.

This term the students worked diligently to complete a number of different online and offline tasks in Maths, English, Science, Geography, Music and Art. It is commendable the students have improved on their learning by taking on constructive feedback given to them during work feedback sessions and on Google Classroom.

Through a variety of Literacy and English activities, the students deepened their understanding of a range of spelling and grammar conventions. They also built on their comprehension skills by exploring different texts using Google documents, Google forms, videos and offline resources.



In Maths the students revised and developed their knowledge in a variety of mathematical areas such as fractions, the four operations, problem solving, number and length.



The team in the unit would like to give a huge thankyou to the students and parents for their efforts this term. We are proud of the students for showing such resilience during this challenging time of lockdown.

The teachers in the Support Unit celebrated SASS Recognition Week during Week 9 and would like to thank all of our brilliant SASS staff, to whom the school would not run without! Their continual dedication has supported the students and teachers greatly throughout the whole term of online learning. Thank you!

Mr Elie Kisso Year 7 Year Adviser



Hooray, right? The long-lasting Term 3 has come to an end. I am sure students are celebrating that they get two weeks away from multiple ZOOM lessons and Google Classroom notifications. They can now break free for a short time from their educational commitments! The message of wellbeing should continue to be echoed to our Year 7 students and that is to keep busy and always look after themselves during these tough times.

Our students have faced challenges like nothing ever seen before this term. Not seeing their teachers or friends in person has been extremely difficult and it has taken its toll on everybody. The Homebush Boys High School wellbeing team have worked hard this term in keeping the students busy and taking their minds off school work and focusing on mental health and wellbeing. This edition of the Year 7 Bush Bulletin will show off the amazing activities Year 7 have been completing during lockdown.

Student commendations

THE WHOLE YEAR 7 COHORT! That's right every Year 7 student has done their bit during this term. Even if it was to join an assembly, complete homework or even a scavenger hunt you have done your bit and should be proud!



Aymen Radwan – My Online learning experience

On my well-being Wednesdays I usually go outside with my family and play basketball. I like well-being Wednesdays because you can catch up on your work and it's also a good time to get off your screens which is bad for your eyesight. I am looking forward to going back to face to face learning and seeing my friends"

SRC Nominations

Year 7 students have the opportunity to be a part of the Student Representative Council. It is great to see so many apply and whoever is successful in the process I hope you take the opportunity with both hands!

Google Classroom – Wellbeing activities

Now the part we have all been waiting for! Some of the great activities Year 7 have participated in include a:

- Gratitude scavenger Hunt
- Trick Shot Tuesdays
- Virtual Talent Show
- Pictures with Pets
- Outdoor scavenger hunt
- Wellbeing Wednesday Sports (Huge thank you to Ms Napoli for her hard work in organising this)

These boys were thankful for Ms Napoli's sport session during Wellbeing Wednesday



Eric Choi Sep 15
thanks miss

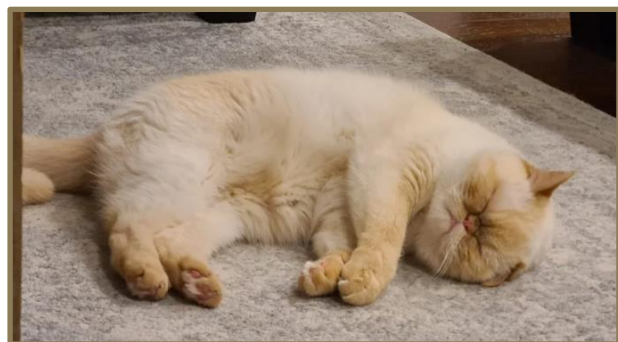
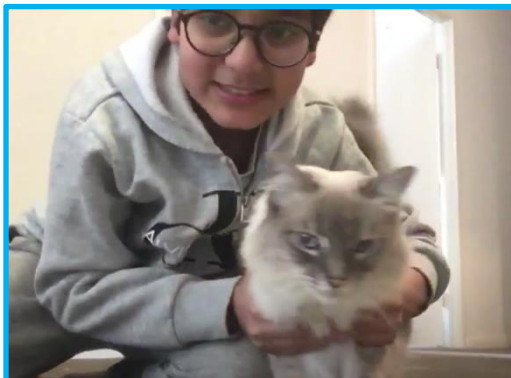


Harshavardhan Mahendran Sep 15
Thank you Ms. Napoli

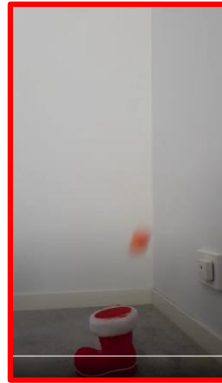
Alper Yorulmaz shows us some his prized possessions:



Some of the boys and their pets (a lot of sleepy cats)



Some snapshots of the boys performing their trickshots for Trickshot Tuesday



Your THOUGHTS MATTER

WHEN FEELING:

TRY:

"THIS IS TOO MUCH." → "WHAT DO I NEED?"

"AM I BEHIND?" → "WHAT CAN I CELEBRATE?"

"I MESSED UP." → "WHAT DID I LEARN?"

"THIS ISN'T WORKING." → "WHAT TWEAK CAN I TRY?"

We would like to thank all parents and teachers during this difficult time. The job you do every day is amazing and does not go unnoticed. The Homebush Boys High School community is forever grateful for the sacrifices everybody has made.

Here are some self-care tips all of us should follow no matter what we do in life!

Stay safe and happy two-week break!
Mr Elie Kisso

Mr Thomas Lee

Year 8 Adviser

Term 3 has been quite a whirlwind for our Year 8 cohort. It was indeed a term filled with many new experiences, one of which being the completion of Assessment tasks online. Having two Year 8 classes and marking their responses, I was quite impressed of the quality and effort the students had placed into their tasks despite the unusual environment they were in. School is not easy already, but to work online and take responsibility of your learning is something that you all should be proud about.



A wonderful addition to the weekly school schedule was the introduction of Wellbeing Wednesday. In the previous Bush Bulletin, I mentioned the 'Gratitude' and 'Get Active' activities the boys got up to. I would like to share another Zoom session we had which fell in line with RUOK day. RUOK day is a nation-wide day acknowledging the importance of reaching out and checking in on those we love and care about. During the discussion, students shared their thoughts and feelings, and it was encouraging to see their mature and sensible nature as they gave each other praise and words of encouragement.

We also took the opportunity to share hobbies we started due to being in lockdown. I must say that we have many talented students with a variety of unique skills.

Below are some samples of boys who wanted to share their hobbies/interests with you.

Photo taken by **Willam Luong**.



Astrophotography. This is the Lagoon and Trifid nebula. They are 4500 light years away from us!

Artistic skills on show, drawn by **Jahin Rashid**



During lockdown I've found a new hobby and been practising it throughout lockdown. It is basketball. I have significantly improved my shooting and movement in play. I chose to do this as I was encouraged by my parents to try something new because of the abundance of leisure I have. Another reason for it was to benefit me spiritually.

Almost every day when it's sunny out I walk for 4 minutes to Strathfield Park. I've been practising and seeing people my age. It's been so long since I've really spoken to someone face to face. That I think I'm developing a habit when I stutter a few times while socialising with people. I'm sure I'm not the only one though. Unfortunately, because of covid the councillor removed the blackboard and net, so it feels like I'm playing netball instead of basketball.

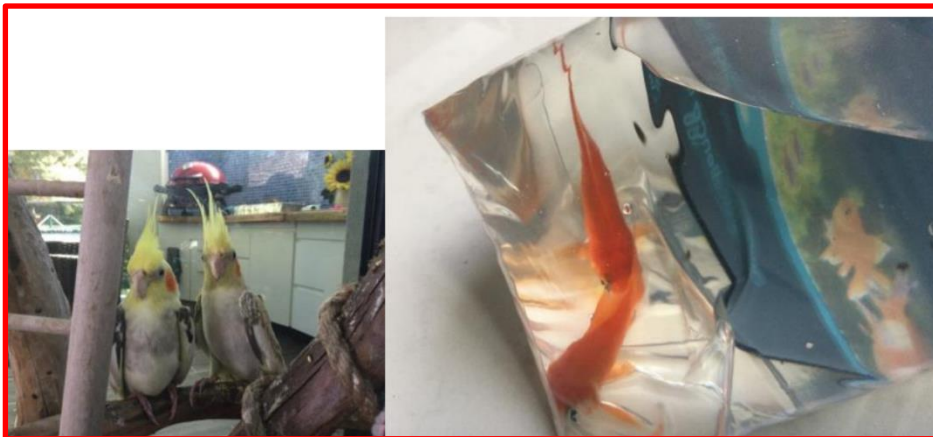
Other than that, I'm extremely grateful even in lockdown. If you sometimes think you have it bad during lockdown it's important to show empathy to those who might be struggling through these abnormal times. Like my dad says, try and find the advantages in the disadvantages. In my case since I have a lot of time in my hands, I can focus on studying more or applying more effort in the things I do.

-Oshae Kabbara

I have been practicing my archery as in my shots on target, how I hold the bow, and then different arrows and their impact on the accuracy. Due to the time spent in lockdown I have gotten much better at it and have started using more professional equipment like a heavier bow, professional arrows, a range finder and professional target.

Ahmad Shams

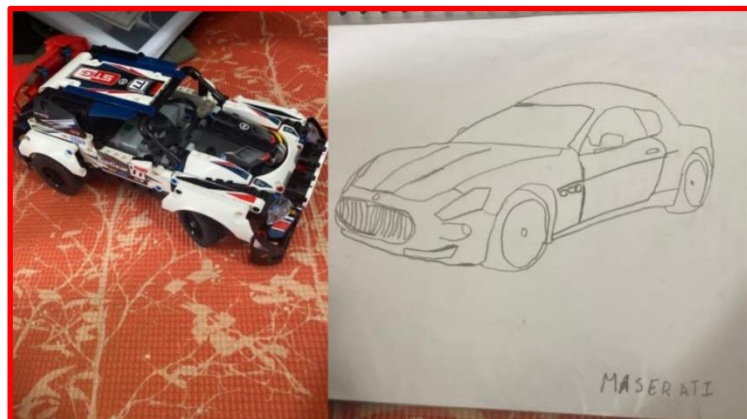
Emirhan Tuna has been spending time with his pets.



Rashed Rana practising his basketball skills.



Saad Ukaye has built a car out of Lego and has also been practising his drawing skills.



Please follow the link to hear **Chandran's** original songs. <https://soundcloud.com/chandran-sarswat>

He tells me that he gets his inspiration from his favourite songs.

I want to take this opportunity to say to you boys that you should make sure to thank your family who have supported and encouraged you during your online learning. During this break, I want you to take advantage of spending quality time with your family and help around the home more. Stay away from the screens!

I hope that you and your family have a wonderful break. Stay safe and take care.

See you all in Term 4 and hopefully face-to-face soon.

Mr Lee

Mr Callum Alexander

Teacher Creative and Performing Arts



Learning in lockdown has been a challenge for all of us in numerous ways. In Music the biggest challenge we faced was many of students not being able to play musical instruments. However, we quickly made composition the focus for all of our boys in years 7-10 so they continue making music! I was blown away with the efforts of some of our boys in all year groups. A few of them even wanted to share their work with you!

Zac Southall Year 7

My name is Zac Southall and I am in year seven. This term in Music I have been doing lots of composing and also have been doing lots of theory study and have enjoyed it a lot. In fact, I have enjoyed music in lockdown because it has allowed me more time to focus on it and music is my passion. Recently I composed a piece of Music as part of our final assessment task. Before hearing or seeing my composition I would like you to know is that it was an edited version of the original (because it was very long and on different instruments) so it sounds different. I hope you enjoy!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eghbFZpetSnw-0j4VyqbGcJrgVoxTAVI/view?usp=sharing>

Ridhwan Sikder Year 8

My name is Ridhwan Sikder and I am a year 8 student. Although this is not the way I imagined our last semester of compulsory music would have started, we still managed to get tremendous things done. Since week one term three, our year eight cohort has been working towards a music composition. Unlike other subjects, in music we have worked towards the assessment across the entire term. I think that this way, students are more productive throughout the weeks and do not have to worry about getting the composition done at the last minute. I find this method very effective because I am able to allocate one time in the week where I can work on this project and there is no worry to get it done in a rush.

Our Soundtrap composition comprises various musical elements such as melodies, chords, basslines, drums and a mixture of our creativity. This assignment allowed our imagination to run wild and free. Mr Alexander has done a fantastic job aiding students across the term with his entertaining videos to his self-made quizzes and although we did not get to feel the sense of being in the classroom, he has surely made us feel like a renowned composer.

Going through this lockdown has been tough for all of us. Restrictions were set in our environment; rules were applied to our outdoor activities and the presence of being in school became a memory we forever treasured. Frankly, this lockdown has connected me with my family more than ever. It has taught me new skills at home and the agitated ability to be patient. It is not a lie that we have dwelled over jamming on the drums at school or running around the western grass, but at home we are able to finish all tasks at our own pace.

Honestly, I am not a talented musician, but with the help of Mr Alexander and his effective teaching techniques, I was able to compose a piece to the best of my ability. I have put in 100% of my effort and tried my hardest throughout the entire term. I am very happy with the work I have completed and my Soundtrap Composition.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mwRWbA1NOJaFHQil1hxFG5zMxC7r7CE0/view?usp=sharing>

Oson Hui Year 9

My name is Oson hui and I am in year 9. I have tried to make the most of remote learning and time at home by practicing the guitar and the piano. I have also enjoyed being able to listen to music all day long and having time to watch lots of performance and music tutorial videos on Youtube. As fun as all of that is, I have missed the fun of playing music with friends. For our final assessment this term we had to make a piece of music to go with a video clip. I titled it 'Bad Time' but I actually had a great time making it!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Ex247lBpOYUWyRmt4LD87LdNFdo1M_k/view?usp=sharing

Ms Lauren DiBiasi Student Support Officer



Ideas to Occupy Your Time

- * Meditate
- * Journaling
- * Write a letter to a loved one or letter of thanks
- * Tidy your room space
- * Organise drawers / storage / handbag
- * Write poem or story
- * Read a book
- * Do some stretches or yoga
- * Do some bodyweight exercises
- * Speak to a friend or loved one
- * Think about your personal goals
- * Practice gratitude
- * Word searches or puzzles
- * Number puzzles such as Sudoku
- * Mindful colouring
- * Quiz
- * Write jokes
- * Origami
- * Look after skin – moisturise
- * Have a pampering session
- * Take care of my nails
- * Dance to music
- * Do a jigsaw puzzle or build something with lego
- * Make a postcard
- * Practice my faith



If you have access to a phone or computer:

- * Black Dog Institute – <https://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au/>
- * Beyond Blue – <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/home>
- * Sane – <https://www.sane.org/>
- * Headspace – Meditation app providing free sessions called 'Weathering the Storm'
- * Duolingo – Free app for learning languages
- * Chatterpack – online resources for self-isolation <https://chatterpack.net/blogs/blog/list-of-online-resources-for-anyone-who-is-isolated-at-home>
- * Sort your digital photos
- * Research something you have always wanted to learn about
- * Watch a ted talk
- * Listen to a podcast or audiobook
- * Watch a live stream from a zoo
- * Complete a virtual museum tour



Ms Sharon Cuneen

Year 11 Adviser



As we come to the end of a very challenging term with being put into lockdown and having to undertake lessons online from home, I would like to congratulate the Year 11 boys and their families for the efforts they have made over the term. As well as keeping up with lessons, Year 11 have also done their yearly exams online and been through the process of nominations and elections of our Prefects who will commence their role in Term 4. Congratulations to the 20 boys that have been voted in by their Year 11 cohort and staff.

It is a very impressive group of young men and my condolences go to the boys that just missed out on being elected as they also are very impressive young men. At the moment, there are other leadership opportunities that they can apply for, including SRC and House Captains, and I encourage all of Year 11 to consider applying for these. Although the boys have been at home, there have been opportunities to participate in different activities online. Thank you to the boys that have submitted reports about these activities.

Prefect nomination process

I am grateful to have been elected as a Prefect for the 2022 Prefect body. In my role as Prefect, I am expected to uphold myself, my peers and my school community to the school's values and I will give it my absolute best. However, this is not the main topic of discussion. The Prefect nomination system worked perfectly and was able to select 20 young and inspired leaders who are ready to uplift their school to new heights. The nomination system starts off with a form in which students describe their regular and leadership lives up until that point, and it is a chance for the selection committee to deeply understand where a person's values lie and what previous leadership roles, they have engaged in. Due to the lockdown, students had to hand in this report on Google Forms. The next step was a virtual interview in which we students had to give our answers on a few questions and scenarios. As a result of this interview being held on zoom, some of my nervousness was put at bay, nevertheless, I was still extremely nervous. Once passing this stage, the last and final step was creating a short two-minute video in which students outlined and explained their reasoning as to why they should be a part of the 2022 Prefect body. Once the video from all the students was posted on Moodle, Year 11 students and teachers commenced the voting process. I am glad to say that I was voted into the prefect body by my peers and teachers and am keen on making a lasting impact on the school.

Vasanth Kumaralingam

A couple of weeks ago we got a few boys together who enjoy both learning and playing the game of rugby league/union to give our attention to an informative and helpful course. This course gave us the chance to hear from Dr Grant Duthie, who has worked previously in athletic performance, strength and conditioning, and plenty more for some of the biggest teams in Australia. This course provided advice and tips on how to set up a successful training program, which involved all aspects of fitness and health, along with the advice about off-season and recovery training. On behalf of the boys who attended, this was especially helpful as we are all able to set up our own necessary training programs while we are in the off-season and some even coming off injuries. The course was run fluently with all our questions being answered in great detail, I'm sure all of us are, or will put the advice to good use.

Kade Humphreys-Jones

Wellbeing Wednesdays were implemented for students to have a break from class zoom lessons and online learning in general for a day in the middle of the week. Not only does the name roll off the tongue, but it gave year groups and year advisors the chance to have an hour in the day where they could all get together and just have a laugh on a zoom, playing some Kahoot or even to do some exercise organised by Ms Napoli. Wellbeing Wednesday, personally gave me a chance for a sleep in, to catch up on some missed work and a chance to go outside, turn off all my screens and go for a run or lift some weights. Or even jump on a discord call with my mates and argue and have a laugh playing some online games. Wellbeing Wednesdays really helped improve my mental health over what has been a tough 11 weeks for everyone mentally. I would like to thank Mr Elgood, the Deputies and everyone else involved in making wellbeing Wednesdays happen. They really have helped relieve some of the stresses of online learning.

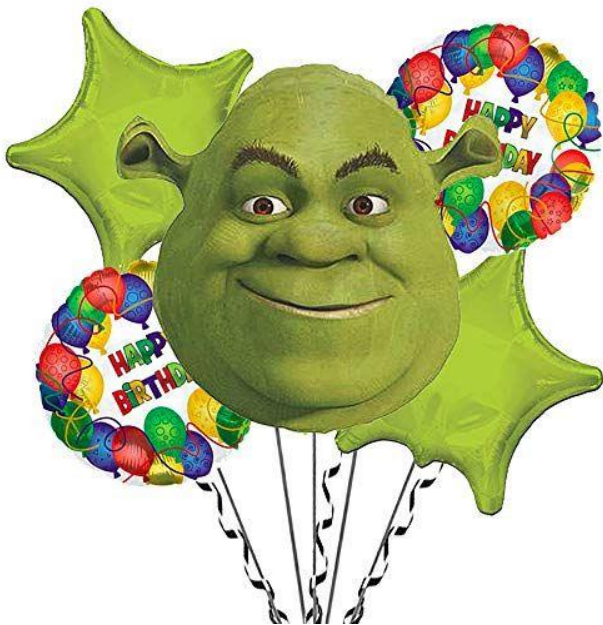
Jackson Campton

Y NSW Leadership Program

Recently the school provided me with the opportunity to enrol in the Y NSW Online Advocacy and Leadership Program. This program is greatly helpful and invaluable to developing and refining my skills as a leader. During a time where social communication is very limited a particular strength, I saw in this program was how it integrated people from all across NSW, the ability to connect with others socially through this program has reminded me what I've missed in lockdown and look forward to coming back into school. The program mostly focuses on allowing students to look into themselves as leaders and as people, to identify where they can improve and how they can ensure the success of a group. The reflective tasks in this program allow students to critically analyse themselves, their actions, and thoughts through encouraging them to improve themselves in many regards. Experience teaches the hardest and most valuable lessons; the program invites guest speakers each week to give their insights and thoughts into how to be a successful and cooperative leader. These guest speakers are from a variety of backgrounds, industries and experiences, providing students with an interesting, engaging, and comprehensive understanding of life outside of high school and how to develop themselves as a leader. This week the program will be hearing from Joel MacKay, Strategic Campaigns Lead at Amnesty International Australia, a finalist in the Australian Human Rights Commission Awards and a passionate promoter of young people, Indigenous and LGBTQIA+ rights, as well as mental health reform. The opportunities provided by the school to engage in programs like these is incredibly valuable to me as an individual and play an immense role in allowing me to develop important skills in school that have the ability to positively impact me in the future and whatever career I pursue.

William Knight

As we were not seeing the boys in person, we started sending birthday emails. We then decided to get Year 11 boys to design a birthday card that we can give out when we get back to school. Below are just two of the great designs that were submitted. Well done, to all of the boys that submitted their birthday card designs.



Deric Wong



Always Remember your Childhood

Bawen Krishnakumar

From Our School Counsellors

Dear parents/carers,

This Thursday 9 September is **R U OK? Day**. This year the message is *“Are they really, OK? Ask them today.”* - Do you know how people in your world are really going?

R U OK? is all about starting conversations to check in with family, friends, neighbours, and workmates. The **R U OK?** website offers this simple guide on how to check-in with someone:

1. Ask – **R U OK?**
2. Listen
3. Encourage action
4. Check in

And these tips to check in on yourself before asking:

1. Are you in the right headspace?
2. Do you have enough time for a meaningful chat?
3. Are you the right person to have the conversation?



With the uncertainties that life presents in these unprecedented times, **R U OK? Day** is a wonderful reminder for us to check in with others and offer our time to listen, provide empathy, and support those closest to us. *“Are they really OK? Ask them today.” Your conversation could change a life.*

For more information including **a role play** on how to go about having a conversation with someone you have concerns about and resources on **R U OK? Day**, click on the following link <https://www.ruok.org.au/>

Below is **Self-Care September** calendar to check in with yourself and prioritise your mental health and wellbeing as often as you can.

Previous monthly calendars with daily tips can be found at <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/calendars>

Warm regards,

School Counsellors: Katherine, and Kim