



Learn Lead Succeed

ISSUE 2 • JULY 2019

DEVICE FREE SCHOOL



Term 3 will see Auburn Girls' High become a no electronic device school. The decision was made because overwhelming majority of parents, teachers and students voted for action on banning mobile phones and other devices in the classroom because they are a distraction to student learning.

These devices also create other issues such as cyberbullying and other inappropriate uses such as filming or recording someone without their permission. Students sitting in the playground busy on their phones or devices and not speaking to one another which is not healthy for social interaction.

Other schools who have banned phones in NSW have noticed an immediate increase in students' engagement with each other.

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CHECK OUT OUR NEW-LOOK WEBSITE!

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Parent Teacher Night

**Wednesday, 31 July 2019
is Parent Teacher Night
for Years 7 to 10**

3pm to 6pm.

This evening has been set aside to provide all parents and carers with the opportunity to **collect your child's report** and then **discuss her progress** with **all** her class teachers.

**Please take advantage of this
opportunity.**

Principal's Report

Dear Parents and Students,

"It takes a village to raise a child."

As this semester draws to a close, I have the pleasure of addressing you in our newsletter showcasing the many wonderful achievements of our school. Once again, our girls and our teachers have achieved much that we can all be proud. I am especially proud when I attend events and I hear many lovely compliments about how well-mannered our girls are, how well they are doing and how much our school is improving each and every year.

There is much hard work undertaken by many people that contribute to our school's success. Most of this work is completed quietly behind the scenes by many teachers, administration and support staff, external agencies, businesses and of course, our parents. Working together we are achieving the best possible curriculum, co-curriculum and wellbeing initiatives for our girls. There is a saying "It takes a village to raise a child." This saying certainly rings true at Auburn Girls, as without this support and teamwork we would not be progressing as quickly as we are. You will see what I am referring to as you enjoy the contents of this newsletter.

Year 9 students graduating from the University of Western Sydney's Fast Forward Program on 10th April 2019.



IFTAR EVENING

Once again, Auburn Girls hosted our annual Ifta Evening where there was an abundance of food and great company. At the heart of this event is the bringing together of people from many different cultures and religions to share a meal, spend time together in a caring, respectful and joyful environment.

We were honoured to have our Executive Director Dr Sylvia Corish join us, as well as our Director John Kennedy, Chris Charles our previous principal and a Director as well as Ms Melissa Johnston, Principal Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School. My gratitude and thanks to Mrs Amr, Ms Diamond, Ms Matta, Ms Jamal, our Prefects, Year 11 Hospitality students and our amazing team of teachers that supported behind the scenes. Over 200 people attended and a lovely, relaxing evening was enjoyed by

Important!

YEAR 12 TRIAL EXAMS

Friday 26 July | Friday 9 August





Above: Year 12 Prefect Cluster Meeting held at AGHS library with Prefects from schools across Sydney, including Sydney Boys and Girls High Schools. 25th June 2019

Lifts

The three lifts being installed in the school continue to be a work in progress. The new wheelchair accessible bathroom is completed and is fully operational. At this stage, the lifts should be completed by the end of Term 3. It will be great to have our upper quad space back so we can have whole school assemblies again. The current space only allows for year group assemblies and I have really missed having the opportunity to have our whole school together in one place so we can share news and enjoy that sense of belonging. In the photo you can see from the outside the construction of the lift for the administration block.



Holidays

Have safe and happy holidays and we will see our girls back at school on Tuesday 23 July. Monday 22nd July is a professional learning day for our teachers, where we will be learning how to support our girls with more effective study skills programs and strategies.

Thank you to everyone for the wonderful team effort that continues to make our school shine.

Anna Tsoutsas
Principal

Important Change – A Reminder

An important change will be coming into effect in Term 4 this year with students' timetables. Our Strategic Direction 1 is Excellence in Learning and as a school we are always looking for evidence based strategies which will improve the learning and conditions for learning for our girls. Teachers and parents have reported the difficulty of engaging students in the last five weeks of school once the assessment cycle concludes. Five weeks equates to over 12% of learning time for students and it is far too valuable to waste. In response we conducted research on the best method of restructuring to ensure this time was used more productively to improve learning and engagement outcomes for our girls. We researched from other schools using early timetable rollover models and gained advice from their experiences.

In 2017, it was decided by the school and our Parents and Citizens Association that more effective use should be made of teaching and learning time once the end of year assessment period concludes mid Term 4 and the implementation of the "early rollover model" for the 2020 timetable. I wrote discussing this with you in the 2017 newsletter.

As a result, each year group will be "rolled over" into the next year with a new timetable mid Term 4 this year.

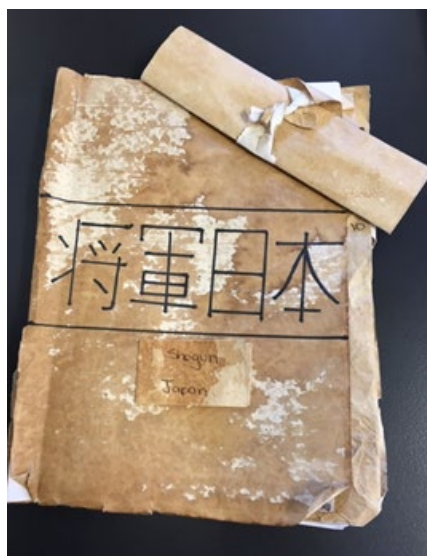
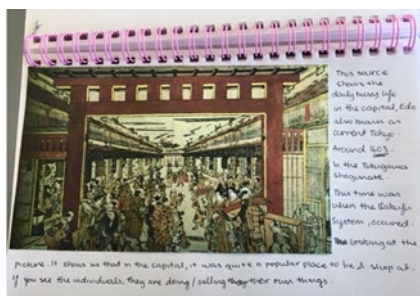
At the conclusion of the exam and assessment period for the end of the year, all students will be starting their new timetable for 2020 on Monday of Week 6 in Term 4. Students in Years 8 to 11 will then complete preparatory work and learn skills required for their courses in 2020. For example, Year 7 students in Term 4, Week 6 will be issued their Year 8 timetable for 2020 and will be learning in all their subjects the specific skills, requirements, vocabulary, literacy and numeracy skills that will ensure they start their Year 8 courses in 2020 well prepared and confident.

Year 12 Courses will continue to begin at the start of Term 4 for Year 11 as is the case now.

A letter with more detailed information will be sent home and posted to our website towards the end of Term 3.

Deputy Principal's Report – Years 7 and 8

What a highly industrious term this has been – NAPLAN, examinations, excursions, competitions and School Spirit Week.



Term 2 has been jam packed with educational opportunities and extra-curricular events. Year 7 participated in NAPLAN early in the term and both Year 7 and Year 8 completed their Half Yearly Examinations in the hall.

I had the pleasure of being invited to view student project work on Shogun Japan in Year 8 History and eagerly watched as Year 7 Technology students built and tested their bridges. Visual representations from the Year 7 English assessment were of a high quality and I enjoyed seeing Year 8 Visual Art's clay work take shape as I conducted my daily visits.

There was an excellent turn out at the Athletics Carnival with many Year 7 students receiving Gold Awards for their enthusiastic participation in events.

The Year 8 Geography Excursion, 8E English Excursion and 7A English Excursion were all highlights this term.

A small group of Year 7 and 8 students continue to visit Calmsley Hill Farm as a part of the PAWS4Trauma project into Term 3.

I have been reading Half Yearly reports in anticipation of them being handed out and am pleased with the effort of so many of our students. Half Yearly reports will be given out at Parent/Teacher night on Wednesday the 31st of July. Please mark this date in your calendar now, information and a booking sheet will be given out Term 3, Week 1. It is incredibly important to attend Parent/Teacher night, not only to receive your daughter's half yearly report, but to speak to each of her teachers about her progress. Translators will be available. Formal assemblies occurred at the end of Week 10 and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the award recipients again.

A special mention goes to Areeba Haq of Year 8 on receiving her Bronze Merit Badge.

I would like to finish by wishing students a restful term break and I look forward to ongoing excellent behaviour and academic achievement from all students in Term 3.

Ms McKenna
Deputy Principal, Years 7 & 8

Left: During this term in history class, we learnt about Shogun Japan. Just recently, we finished our Shogun Japan assignment where we had to make a picture book or guide book explaining Shogun Japan society or 'life in Japan'. Many of us, wrote about topics such as food, lifestyle, the hierarchy and much more while others decided to focus on one topic and explain it thoroughly. We included many sources such as paintings and clay work, as well as drawings of the Shoguns and people.

Deputy Principal's Report – Years 9 and 10

What a very busy term it has been for Years 9 and 10 and they will be looking forward to a well-earned break!

FAST FORWARD PROGRAM – YEAR 9

The Following Year 9 students were welcomed into the Fast Forward program for 2019. These students will visit Western Sydney University throughout the year and explore the benefits that university study has to offer.

Hayat Abdi, Yashfa Afzal, Danya Ahmed, Muruvvet Akkaya, Iktimel AlRajab, Fatima Albadry, Aysha Al-Taai, Ruweyda Anwar Ahmed, Asmaa Dandan, Mariam Haidari, Sara Halla, Sumaia Kashmiri, Dehlia Par Kawlita, Hanieh Rahimi, Mahnaz Rahimi, Zaneb Shinawah and Fatima Taimori.

PCYC 'FIT FOR CHANGE' – YEAR 10/11

The following students attended the PCYC 'Fit for Change program' in Term 2. The program engaged students in activities that promoted positive choices in decision-making and developed their skills in leadership:

Hiba Zreika, Hajar Alsalemi, Amira Harmouche, Khadija Dunia, Ulla Al Saleh, Yasmine Dib, Ayse Bolat, Nesreen Assad, Fatma Almaliki, Saane Bloomfield, Ayeah Malas, Rowena Elghoul, Noor Abdul-Rahman, and Ranya Yassine.



Mud Group at the PCYC 'Fit for Change' program

Year 9 were busy preparing for their Half Yearly Exams and Naplan tests, next year Naplan will be online and students will complete these tests using computers. These tests are important in providing information on student's literacy and numeracy skills that are critical for their learning.

Year 10 behaviour was outstanding during their exam week! This is important, as they will soon be entering their senior years and need to make study a priority. Year 10 have been meeting with their mentors to discuss career pathways and subjects for Year 11. They all attended a presentation from Head Teachers about subjects that their faculties were offering in 2020. Flyers were available with fantastic information for them to take home and read.

Year 10 students have all chosen their subjects for taster week and this will occur in Term 3 week 2. Student will experience what subjects are like in a normal senior class, what the standard is, how difficult or easy it is. It is important that students choose subjects they love, that they are capable of doing and is the right fit for them.



The NESA minimum standards test for Year 10 started in Term 2 in reading, writing and numeracy. These tests ensure that students are confident in utilising the skills needed to succeed in the HSC.

Ms Jackman
Acting DP, Years 9 & 10

Years 11 and 12

What an eventful Term 2 and as we approach the end of the first semester of 2019, I reflect on what a productive term the senior students have had. The senior students have continued to shine as excellent role models for the younger years.

This message was well conveyed at the Year 11 and 12 Formal Assembly where a large proportion of the cohort were presented with awards for achievement and excellence. While the girls are looking to a well-earned break unfortunately the winter holidays is a time that Year 12 students need to use wisely and efficiently. Completing summaries of their notes for all subjects as well as doing past papers so that they are ready for their Trial HSC Examinations which start Friday Week One. Year 11 and 12 also had the opportunity to attend the Careers Market Day organised by our Career's Adviser Ms Heemi. This gave our girls the chance to ask those burning questions about their future aspirations and meet with representatives from Universities, TAFE and Businesses.

Stage 6 Parent Teachers night was very successful in giving parents the forum to discuss their daughter's progress and achievements with their teachers. Both year groups also had one on one interviews with their Year Advisers to reflect on their progress, identify strengths and weaknesses and set goals to improve their performance in the following semester. Thank you to Ms Bakhos and Ms Pham for their time and effort in doing these valuable and insightful interviews.

The P&C meetings have continued to meet on the last Wednesday of each month and in this past term had ran some very interesting sessions that were attended by a large proportion of our parents. The first P&C meeting for next term is being held on the same day as the junior Parent/Teacher Evening which is scheduled for Wednesday 31st July. This will be a very important P&C meeting as it is focusing on explaining to Year 10 parents the requirements of the Higher School Certificate and how important it is for your daughter to choose the right pathway. We encourage as many parents as possible to attend as it will help make informed decisions about your daughter's senior subject choices and their suitability.

With the weather getting cooler, can we ask parents to please support us with the implementation of our uniform policy. Students should only be wearing the grey or black (juniors only) school jumper, the school jacket or sports jacket. Any jumper with a hood or another logo is not part of our school uniform and

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Elody Gache Year 10 has been selected as our student of the month due to her ongoing commitment to her learning and for the consistent school spirit she displays. Elody is an active member of the school community, accepting every opportunity to develop her personal skills. In the Peer Support Leadership program Elody displayed excellent communication skills and was able to establish positive relationships with Year 7 students. She also attended the Year 7 camp where she was able to use her leadership skills to encourage and guide younger students as they faced personal challenges. Elody has also been part of the Women in Property program and is involved in many school and grade sports. Elody is a positive role model and consistently demonstrates maturity in all she does.

Helen Mi Year 9 has been selected as our student of the month due to her ongoing commitment to her learning and upholding the school motto of Learn, Lead Succeed. Helen has a positive attitude and always willing to help those around her. She played the piano beautifully during the Year 9 Formal Assembly and Iftar Night and those present were in awe of her talent. While Helen loves playing the piano, she loves Harry Potter just as much. Her knowledge of Harry Potter is exceptional. Helen is an active member of the class, always contributing to class discussions and works collaboratively well with her peers. She is always willing to cheer on her peers during sport carnivals and overall a joyful spirit and outlook to life. Helen We would like to congratulate Helen for her wonderful attitude and spirit she brings to her teachers and peers.

should not be worn to school. Students are to be wearing a white collared school shirt every day, not just a jumper. To stay warm, students can wear long sleeved tops under their shirts and jumpers but they cannot be seen.

We have implemented a new uniform disciplinary system so if the girls are out of uniform they will need to attend a lunch detention that day. If a student is unable to wear their correct school uniform on a particular day, please send them to school with a signed note. Students know that they must show their note and get a uniform pass from their Deputy Principal as soon as they arrive at school in these one-off circumstances.

Any second hand uniforms would be greatly appreciated by the Wellbeing team. Please drop them off to my office. Thank you for supporting our students and teachers with the school uniform policy.

Lastly, I thank Ms Bakhos for her incredible work ethic and compassion as the relieving Year 11 Year Adviser. I wish all a very peaceful and safe break. If you have any problems concerning your daughter's progress, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ms Belinda Diamond
Years 11 & 12

Year 12 at the Athletics Carnival



School News

Healthy Kids Pitch Prize

The Breakfast Club Leaders accepting the healthy kids pitch prize of \$5000 (right). Our Breakfast club is run by the Year 11 and 12 Prefect leaders every Tuesday and Friday morning. Come say hello and grab a bite to eat. The best way to start your day – see below.



SPIRIT WEEK

Spirit week guest speaker. Christie Mokotupu (left), a wonderful speaker who touched our hearts and by far a most memorable and inspirational female. She was genuine and real, this is why her story will forever stay with us.

At 17 years old, Christie Mokotupu had the world at her feet. She was considered one of the greatest young volleyball talents in the world and had already earned a spot in the Australian team for the Sydney Olympic Games.

Less than three years later, Mokotupu had quit the sport she loved and was on the road to alcohol and drug addiction. Her story is all too familiar among young elite athletes.

Eight years after beating her addictions, the 32-year-old is still counting the "massive" cost of her drug use and addiction to alcohol.

Mokotupu has connected with ONE80TC, a drug and alcohol rehabilitation and training centre that supports young men (it will soon have a women's program).

She will be doing a charity bike ride in September from Sydney to the Hunter Valley to raise awareness and funds for the organisation. "It's a win-win situation; I'm raising money for them but I'm getting back into sport and physical fitness, which have always come naturally to me."

Nancy Finau
Year 11 Prefect

Stephanie Kurlow

Year 7, year 10 and our dance students 7-12 (see right) had the pleasure of meeting Stephanie Kurlow, our very own Australian Muslim Ballerina.

Stephanie Kurlow is an Australian dancer and ballet student often credited as being the world's first Hijabi Ballerina.

Kurlow was born to an Australian father and Russian mother. She grew up in the suburbs of Sydney and began dancing at the age of two. Stephanie stopped dancing at the age of nine in 2010 as there were no dance studios that catered to her beliefs. Inspired by Stephanie's dream, her mother, Alsu Kurlow, opened a performing arts academy in 2012 that offered ballet, martial arts, and aboriginal art classes for girls. She began wearing the hijab full time when she was eleven years old. Kurlow launched an online campaign to raise money for full time classical ballet training, raising over \$7000. Kurlow lists African-American ballet dancer Misty Copeland, Chinese-Australian ballet dancer Li Cunxin, and Emirati figure skater Zahra Lari as her inspirations. She plans to open her own dance school in the future geared towards diverse youths of various backgrounds.



Kurlow is an ambassador for Remove Hate from the Debate, a campaign that assists youth in identifying online hate speech and tackling it. She is a recipient of the Aim for the Stars scholarship and the Game Changer Scholarship by Björn Borg. Kurlow was invited as a guest speaker to Indonesia for the Resonation Women's Empowerment Conference in 2017. She also received a scholarship to The Royal Danish Ballet summer school in 2018. Kurlow was featured in a Lenovo campaign with designer Tarese Klemens for International Women's Day in 2018. She was also featured in a global campaign with Converse named 'Love The Progress' in 2019, which is inviting women to redefine what girl means.

Kurlow is currently working towards her goal of becoming the world's first Hijabi ballet dancer to dance in a professional ballet company.



Above: Zumba during School Spirit Week
Below: Henna during School Spirit Week



MORE SCHOOL SPIRIT WEEK ACTIVITIES



Above: Coloured Scarf Day
Right: Crazy Hair Day
Below Left: Photo Booth



Below: Talent Contest Winners





Left – some students from Year 7 enjoying Mindful Colouring.

Below – students and staff enjoying the Staff versus Students Basketball game in the Gym. The game was a tie.



IMPORTANT DATES

TERM 2

WEEK 10

5 July 2019

Last day of Term 2

TERM 3

WEEK 1

22 July 2019

Staff Development Day

23 July 2019

Students return

26 July 2019

Year 12 trial Examinations begin

WEEK 2

29 July 2019

Year 10 Taster Week begins

31 July 2019

Year 7 to 10 Parent Teacher Night
P & C Meeting

WEEK 4

15 August 2019

Students of Excellence Lunch

WEEK 6

28 August 2019

P & C

29 August 2019

School Spectacular

WEEK 10

26 September 2019

Year 12 Graduation

27 September 2019

Last day of Term 3

TERM 4

WEEK 1

14 October 2019

All return to school

English/History Faculty

Many things have been happening in the faculty this term. In particular, our debating teams are doing really well this year and a very big 'Thank you!' goes to our Debating Coaches and our debating students for their amazing success this year. Another group that needs to be acknowledged are those students who help out such as the Chairperson and Timekeeper.

Listen

No one ever listens,
Which is a shame because,
I've got a thousand stories I want to tell.

No one ever listens,
Which is a shame because,
You've got a thousand things you want to say,
Some are important, some are not
But they should listen anyway
We're friends right?
You seem to say,
But no one listens anyway.

Why is that?
The innocents ask,
Why won't they listen to the stories we tell?
I stare at their ignorance
And want to say,
I envy you for being able to think that way
Instead I draw a picture of why they don't listen,

On the picture is a drawing of a phone, computer,
TV and headphones.

They stare at the picture
And I say it's their future
But it's too late, they don't hear what I say,
No one ever listens anyway.

Isra Ismail



THE GOOD KIND OF ARGUMENT

Debating Wrap – Term 2

It has been another strong term for debating at Auburn Girls High School. Our Year 7 and 8 teams are yet to debate but have both been practicing and are ready for competition next term. Our Year 9 and 10 teams are undefeated at the time writing, having both beaten teams from Condell Park and the Year 10's also having a hard-fought victory over Birrong Girls.

Our Year 11's were knocked out of the Quarter Finals of the Stage 6 competition in the South West Sydney zone after a grueling debate against the Year 12 Homebush Boys team. However, they bounced back from this defeat by winning their zone for the Year 11 only Sydney Metro competition. This puts them into the Quarter Finals, which will be early in Term 3. Essentially, they are in the top 8 Year 11 debating teams in Sydney, which is a remarkable achievement for them and for the school.

Congratulations to all our girls who participate in debating for their commitment and great attitude.

Mr Bailey and Ms Rao
Debating Coaches

YEAR 10 ENGLISH

Year 10 students have recently been studying Shakespearean Tragedy, with some classes studying 'Romeo and Juliet' or 'Macbeth'. On the 20th of June, a majority of Year 10 students went on an excursion to see the play 'Macbeth' performed at Riverside Theatre Parramatta by Sport by Jove.

Students had an early start to their day, but all were energetic and excited to see the play. Upon arrival to the theatre, we were given seats in the first three rows, allowing students to have some interaction with the characters throughout the performance. The beginning of the play, and the arrival of the Weird Sisters really set the mood and atmosphere for the rest of the performance. After a quick Q & A session, students got to enjoy lunch in the park.

All students are to be congratulated on their excellent behaviour and positive contribution for creating such an excellent and enjoyable day.

Kelsey Le Mesurier

What Matters? The Fading World

Once upon a time,
The stars shone so divine
That when you gazed ahead
The murky night sky would light up
Once upon a time,
The green hills stretched as far as the eye could see
And the roads won't always there.
The trees grew as high as they wanted to,
With their dreams to touch the sky
And no one would cut them down.
Once upon a time,
A Tall building wouldn't get in the way of a beautiful sunset
Or the view of a sparkling river shining blue,
Green lush fields spread over the land,
And bright red poppies spread atop the dirt,
Big blue seas conquered the deep unknown
And the only mist in the air was the white, fluffy clouds
Until this world of once upon a time faded,
Into a place of forgotten nature and broken values.
All this construction we're seeing, trying to upgrade the tunnels and homes, it's like,
'Hey we're building you a new world'
But we don't need a new world
What's wrong with the world we live in now?
What's wrong with the grass fields, sturdy plains and blue seas?
What's wrong with that?
Why are we so eager to be rid of nature, to fill the world with man made things and faults.
When there's no fault in nature.

At least, that's how I see it,
Because although the future got us skyscrapers and phones,
Electricity and TV,
Hover boards and cars
At what cost did we have to pay to achieve these things?
These useless, harmful things!
I'll tell you what,
It cost us clear skies and running water
Fresh air that we need so desperately to breathe
It cost us thousands of dead and now extinct animals
And jungles and jungles of precious green trees.

It doesn't matter how many people overlook the fact that nature is compromised and green is disappearing, along with fresh air, numerous life-forms and plants which are on their way to extinction. It is our responsibility to find a solution, to make a change for Australia and the rest of the world because we cannot assume that the damage to the world will fix itself.

Someone asked me why I was writing about this, about environment and nature. Since when did I care about all this? I have never mentioned it before but I am writing about this now because it is something that has been gnawing at my heart, gnawing at all our hearts when we see and hear the mass damage happening. The pollution and carelessness caused by humans has me consciously wanting to become an ambassador for the voiceless. Do we have the courage to act honestly? Asking people to pick up the odd wrapper or two every once in a while is not going to help this planet. Sticking posters with big signs saying 'save the trees', isn't enough. I wish I could just make the world's rubbish disappear into oblivion. Pretty odd superhero power to wish for, right? But if it means making the world a better place, Why not?
I'm young and my efforts to keep the world clean are barely noticeable when thousands of people are throwing their waste into the oceans and forests. Sometimes I close my eyes and try to imagine a time in Australia before the settlers came, where animals used to live in barrows before my street was built and maybe some ancient indigenous tribe camped where my house sits today. I can't do much to spread the word, but I can write. So I write to tell the world what matters, not just to me but to everyone because nature matters and The Fading World too.

Isra Ismail

Careers

Wow!! What a jam-packed term we have had! Students from Year 9 – 12 have had various excursion opportunities to learn more about the world of work, further education and training. These include:

Girls in Property

- o 27 students from year 10 learning about the largest employment industry in Australia, visiting large development sites in Parramatta and CBD, then working alongside industry mentors to develop solutions to real-world housing, retail and commercial problems
- o Congratulations to all three teams who presented outstanding pitches to a panel of judges
- o Special mention to the AGHS winning team who went on to compete against other schools, gaining a clear win in their category and 2nd place overall. Fantastic work ladies!!

HSC & Careers Expo

- Over 100 Year 12 students travelling to the major HSC and Careers Expo at Homebush, gaining valuable information to help with their future study and work options.

Others

- 60 girls across Year 10 and 11 travelling to various Industry based days hosted by potential employers including Westmead Hospital, a tech start-up company and Bankstown Vicinity
- 75 girls across Year 9 and 10 attending information days at USYD, UNSW and WSU

AGHS Careers Market

- Over 350 students from Year 10, 11 and 12 making the most of our annual AGHS Careers Market – selecting guest speaker session in fields of interest and chatting with universities, TAFE and other providers to gain first-hand information before choosing senior subjects or future study options.

Thank you to everyone who assists the Careers Department to run these events – the parents who give their permission and support their girls to explore new options, the teachers who assist on the ground and most of all, the students who maximise these opportunities, ask lots of questions and represent our school with pride.

Ms Heemi
Careers Adviser



Support Faculty

This term has seen a busy one for the Support Unit students and also of big changes with Ms Sin leaving.

It has been an incredibly productive semester and I would like to acknowledge some of our student groups who have been successful in TAFE courses over the past two terms. The dedication and energy of staff in supporting our students is amazing, as they continue to go the extra mile in providing opportunities for their education and personal development. Congratulations to every teacher in the Support Unit for another wonderful school term, the holidays will be a welcome break for all as we recharge the batteries to be ready for a busy Term 3.

It is also something of a monumental chapter closing as we announce the retirement of Mrs J. Sin, after 20+ years at Auburn Girls High school. She had a truly wonderful career and her enormous impact on the education and support of young people at our Support Unit.

Welcome to Mr Lindsay as part of our family in the Support Unit.

Last week our year 10 students participated in the LMA Education Festival Cooking Competition. The challenge aims to encourage a love of cooking for leisure and pleasure in students, and to enable them to experience essential quality life skills. A big thank you to Ms Amr and Mrs Maroon for supporting our students, and congratulations to Nazimeh and Douha for winning the first prize.

From next term, we will start our greenhouse garden bed, this is to help our senior Science class to implement the knowledge they have learnt in Living World Senior Science.

It was great to see so many of our students and parents turn up to Subject Selection ILP for years 8, 9 & 10. We have started the process of interviewing students and trying to guide and support them all in their future endeavours. Just a reminder to students to pick subjects that will help them towards their future goals and interests and not to pick subjects that their friends are choosing,



As this will lead to students achieving the best possible results for themselves.

Last week I sent a reminder to the parents, while attendance is most important to the wellbeing and academic performance of your daughters, the school does not expect students who are sick to attend school. Please use your discretion and judgement in deciding whether your daughter should attend school or not if she is sick.

Also, please ensure that you or your emergency contact is available to answer telephone calls from the school, and that one of you is able to collect your daughter if required.

Until next time, safe and happy holidays to all.

Amany Saleh
Head Teacher Support

Social Sciences Faculty

Geography Excursion - The Wetlands

On 8th of May 2019, Year 8 Geography students had the opportunity to visit Bicentennial Park at Sydney Olympic Park. Once we arrived at the park, we went to explore the colourful and vibrant jungle-like habitats in the wetlands.



There were many types of amazing native plant and animal species. There are birds who migrate to the wetlands from all across the world. Imagine flying from another country and not being able to stop for a short break. This wetland habitat is an important area for migratory birds that fly all the way from China, Japan and South and North Korea during the winter time. The birds have to make one journey of about 15,000 kilometres, they then land in Bicentennial Park Water Bird Refuge. They travel this distance, for the immense amount of food, eating until they're completely full every day during their visit down under to us! Some of the birds you can find here are the Black Swans, Pelicans and Black Ducks. Year 8 students had an opportunity to identify the birdlife at the wetland by using an identification chart.

We had the opportunity to test the water to see why it had such a positive effect on the area, testing it for its turbidity level, PH level, salinity, temperature and purity. We split up into 2 groups, and had access to a variety of equipment when testing the water, such as the universal indicator, thermometer, the PH level chart, salinity tube and many

others. Our results showed that the quality of the brackish water (a mixture of saltwater and freshwater) was very good!



The park wasn't always filled with luscious and unique greenery, it was once heavily polluted with garbage and chemicals from the residents and local businesses. It was only until experts and environmentalists started to notice the damage it was causing to the plants, animals and the environment, that people started to take action to fix these mistakes by rejuvenating the wetlands. The large-scale clean-up has greatly improved the general look and smell of the area, helping the habitat slowly recover from its past, and given Sydney people a stunning natural environment to explore.

We had a great time learning about the park and all its natural wonders. On behalf of Year 8 we'd like to thank our Geography teachers, Mr Lawrence, Ms Preketes and Ms Gardiner, for taking us to the wetlands.

By: Anita Singh and Tasnim Sarah



PDHPE Faculty

AUBURN GIRLS HIGH ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

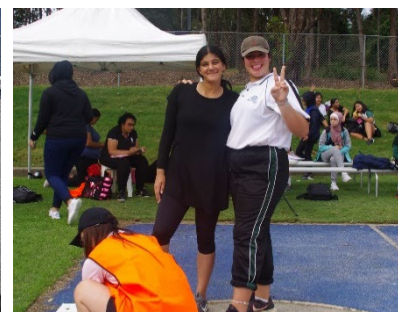
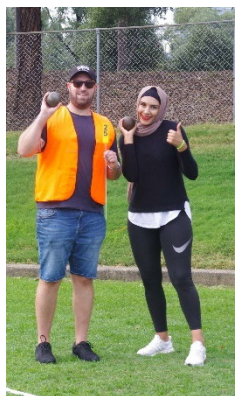
Auburn Girls High annual Athletics Carnival was held at the Warm-up Arena at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush on Thursday 2nd May. It was a beautiful sunny day with approximately 500 students in attendance, the most we have had in years. Students battled it out on the track and field events where they represented their house group in their respective colours.

The winning house on the day was Curie placing 1st and winning the carnival with an impressive 626 points. Cavell came in 2nd on 617 points, followed by Melba placing 3rd with 563 points and 4th place went to Batten on 442 points.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the carnival but a special mention goes to the following students who were the age champions:

- 12 years– Sarah Chaudhary
- 13 years – Shafiq Karimi
- 14 years – Yumi Cailloce
- 15 years – Cecilia Do
- 16 years – Nancy Finau
- 17+ years – Maybelle Thieu

Good luck to all the students who will be representing Auburn Girls High at the Prospect Zone Athletics Carnival on Friday 28th June, held at Blacktown International Sports Park. We wish those students the best of luck and know they will represent Auburn Girls High School with pride.





PROSPECT ZONE CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

The Prospect Zone Cross Country Carnival was held at Granville Park on Wednesday 22nd May. It was a beautiful day for the carnival and we had 40 students represent Auburn Girls High as they each ran a 3km track. Students showed a great level of determination and enthusiasm to complete reflected in the 18 students who qualified for the regional cross country.

All students should be very proud of their effort, a special mention goes to Fatima Moradi who was awarded age champion finishing in 1st place and Arzoo Abdullah in 2nd place in the under 16's, Mariam Kamara placed 2nd in the under 12's and Shafiq Karimi placed 3rd in the under 13's. Sarah Chaudhry, Melissa Maharjan, Cecilia Do, Catherine Do and Masoumeh Moradi also came in at an impressive 4th or 5th place in their respective age groups.

By Miss Ghemraoui

BASKETBALL

Our under 15's Basketball team displayed grit and determination in a close loss to a significantly taller Richmond High School. The girls fought valiantly, taking body hits and competing fiercely for every loose ball. The girls were able to maintain a lead for 32 minutes of the match before eventually succumbing to their opponent's height and skills, going down 28-18.

All the girls are to be congratulated for their sportsmanship.
Mr Bailey

School Cross Country 10 April



Life Ready

On Thursday 13th June and Friday 14th June, Year 11 students attended Nepean Adventure Centre as part of the Life Ready program. Life Ready is a mandatory course designed to prepare and support senior students as they encounter situations related to health and safety as they become more independent and gain more responsibilities. This was a fantastic two days as students stepped outside of their comfort zone as they participated in outdoor adventure activities and theory lessons based around perceived risks versus actual risks, leadership skills and positive relationships.

Students had the opportunity to complete:

- Adventure Ropes – a high ropes course which tested student's initiative and balance as they maneuvered their way through different obstacles. It was so impressive to see the amount of students taking on the 9m high course!

- Archery – students engaged in a structured lesson and practice time as they all aimed to hit the bullseye.

- Rock climbing – students climbed an 8m walled rock climbing tower. This was a great team work activity as the climber relied on three of their peers to be their belayer as they made their way up the wall.

- Gorge Swing – this was definitely the crowd favourite! Three brave students at a time were harnessed to the giant mechanical swing that hauled them up backwards before sending them out over the gorge. You could hear the screams and laughter on the other side of the adventure centre!

It was so pleasing to see all students get involved and have a go at the practical activities, particularly those who had a fear of heights. Many students worked through their fears because of the support they received from their peers. This has created a stronger bond between Year 11 and proves that they are all capable of tackling challenging situations with success.

Miss Fagan





Lote Faculty



YEAR 8 EXCURSION

Dilili à Paris

In March all four Year 8 French classes went on an excursion to the Alliance Française's film festival at the Leichhardt Palace cinema to see the animation film *Dilili à Paris*. This beautiful movie was set in Paris back in time during la Belle Époque with Dilili, a little girl from New Caledonia, who uncovers a mystery. She meets many famous artists, musicians and personalities from that era, such as Picasso, Debussy and Sarah Bernhardt, and her travels take her and us all over Paris. One major theme is equality between all people, male and female, and the song, *Le soleil et la pluie*, celebrates this equality. After the movie we ate our lunch and enjoyed gelato.

Ms Park & Ms El Timani

(Chorus) LE SOLEIL ET LA PLUIE, le jour et la nuit,
The sun and the rain, the day and the night
les fleurs et les fruits, lui et lui,
the flowers and the fruit, him and him
elle et elle, elle et lui !
her and her, her and him

(Verse) Toi et moi, eux et nous ou ou ou – ou ou ou ou
You and me, them and us uuus....
Ceux d'ici, de là-bas a a a – a a a Those from here, from
over there eeeeeere
Les bronzés, les nacrés é é é é
The tanned, the pearly white...
Et tous ensemble...And everyone together...
Sing the chorus again: Le soleil et la pluie...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P56ALdTzmC4>



Parent Information

Cyberbullying

There is no doubt that technology has provided a new avenue for hurtful and intimidating situations. In a world where friends are made with the click of a mouse, it's probably not surprising that relationships are just as easily terminated.

In fact, the New Oxford American Dictionary's word of the year for 2009 was 'unfriend'. Defined by Oxford University Press as: "to remove someone as a 'friend' on a social networking site such as Facebook", the word's popularity gives an insight into the volatile nature of many online friendships.

So is unfriending just unfriendly, or is it cyberbullying? What if a group of school mates gang up and publicly unfriend your child all at once – does that constitute bullying? And does the definition of cyberbullying really matter when your child feels hurt?

At a glance

- Bullying that occurs online or via technology is called cyberbullying.
- Online relationships can be different to face-to-face relationships.
- Hurtful comments and embarrassing photos posted online are potentially there forever.
- Solutions to cyberbullying need a whole community approach, not just schools or parents working in isolation.
- Filters only block certain content and aren't a solution to cyberbullying.
- Parents need to be aware of the technology their kids are using, and learn to use it as well.

While schools are making it a priority to address cyberbullying (and good digital-citizenship) in their policies and curricula, the problem needs a whole community approach. Solutions also need to involve social media outlets, cyber-bystanders, parents and the government.

Parents have to be participants

One of the world's leading experts on cyberbullying, Professor Donna Cross, says the most important thing we parents can do is be involved and familiar with our kids' online lives. Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using, so that they can be in that space with them and look at the ways in which they are engaging with their friends.

MAKING ONLINE PAYMENTS

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card, and can be made via computer, tablet or mobile phone. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting:

\$ MAKE A PAYMENT SECTION ON THE WEBSITE

From the taskbar at the top of the page, right hand side. Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called 'Other' this to cover items not covered in the previous headings. 'Other' can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice. These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

There is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number if you are aware of them, these are optional fields OR there is also the option to enter the Student Registration Number and Invoice number these are not used at our school, please leave blank.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

When you access the ["\\$ Make a payment"](#) you must enter:

- the students name, and class and reference number **OR**
- the students name, and date of birth