



Parent Newsletter

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A Happy Fathers' Day to our fathers and grandfathers. I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable day on Sunday.

I hope you and your families are well and staying safe. My heart goes out to our families who have loved ones in Afghanistan. My thoughts also to those in our community who have caught covid, I hope you recover soon and feel better. What difficult and strange times we are living in!

Term 4 Learning

Online learning will continue into the first few weeks of Term 4 until we are scheduled to return to face to face learning. A detailed program will be forwarded to you and students in the next few days. We continue to refine our online work and take feedback into consideration to meet the girls' learning needs. You will notice there are more zoom interactive sessions scheduled as well as an additional program for Selective students. Take home learning packs will continue to be available at the front of the school as well.

Student Return to School Dates

As you know any planning with COVID is fluid. The NSW students return to school dates are published below but please remember that we are in a covid hotspot and these dates may be postponed.

Year 12	25 th October
Year 11	1 st November
Years 7-10	8 th November

Assessment

As the end of term approaches there is much happening with online learning. Our Year 7 to 10 students will be completing their Common Tasks and their daily lessons. Our Year 11 students continue their daily work and their Assessment Tasks. Year 12 is in their final week of completing their Assessment Task 4 for each subject in lieu of the trials. Please know that much discussion and collaboration has taken place with our teachers and feedback from our girls before changes to assessment are made. With Years 7 – 11 we have adapted assessments taking into account what is realistic for students to complete at home, the wellbeing and stress levels of the girls while still being able to assess where they are at with their learning. Assessing their learning is vital not just for reporting but so we may plan the next learning cycle based on student needs.



Wellbeing Wednesday on 8th September

This Wednesday 8th September is "Wellbeing Wednesday" where students from Years 7-11 will not be issued with any work for that day and will be able to use that time to catch up if needed or participate in the many wonderful fun activities discussed below by Ms Diamond.

Year 12

With Year 12, we have been notified by the Department that HSC exams will definitely be taking place and NESAs has postponed the starting date to 9th November. The new HSC Exam schedule will be published by mid September.

Year 12 is scheduled to return to school 25th October. These two weeks before the exams will be spent with face to face teaching as well as optional practice available for the girls with HSC papers under exam conditions in the hall.

Face masks must be worn by both students and staff and social distancing measures will be undertaken to ensure the safety of all. All Staff on site from the 25th October will be fully vaccinated to ensure the safety of students.

Early offers from universities continue to come in. This is very exciting for all of us as it takes the pressure off our girls that little bit. Ms Diamond will provide you with details below.

I am hoping that by now the girls will have received their surprise from the school in the mail. This cohort has really had a difficult time and their last year of school was definitely not meant to be like this. Their graduation is postponed until after the HSC as is their formal. So, this gift is meant to lift their spirits and know we care and are thinking of them.

Take care and stay safe

Anna Tsoutsas
Principal



Deputy Principal Year 8 and 12 - Ms Diamond

• Well-Being

As part of our dedication in promoting positive wellbeing and knowing how important the overall health of our students is to successfully overcome any difficulties and achieve their very best, this week is wellbeing week. On Wellbeing Wednesday there will be no zoom sessions timetabled in the afternoons or any new units of work published for our junior students. This is a day dedicated to their happiness and personal wellness. We are encouraging the girls not to use any technology on this day but instead spend the day relaxing, having quality time with their family by watching a girly movie together, playing board games or even cooking. For our students to go outside and walk or even kick a ball around. Some students may want to catch up on missed work as well. On Wellbeing Thursday their wonderful Year Advisers as well as the Head Teacher Wellbeing and Deputy Principal will be having Zoom sessions with their year groups in small house groups to contact, play a game and let the students talk to their fellow peers. We are also busy organising a video surprise for the girls this Friday.

The Wellbeing Team is working on a virtual merit system for our students and all the amazing work they have been doing during online learning. Watch this space next term on what this will look like. The bumper weekly newsletters found on our website again have been amazing and all credit to Ms Matta for her tireless work and dedication in getting these done. Lastly being SASS Recognition Week a big shout out to the fabulous school administration and support staff for all their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment in supporting our students, teachers and wider school community. They have had to be increasingly flexible to adapt to changing scenarios and pandemic restrictions, highlighting the vital role they play in keeping our school running efficiently and safely everyday.

• Year 8

We had a very well attended Webinar with Year 8 last Wednesday focusing on the choosing of their electives for Stage 5 2022. The girls had many wonderful questions and were genuinely excited about being able to have a voice in their learning pathway. A big thank you to all the subject teachers who have volunteered to allow Year 8 to email them any questions directly that they may have in regards to their subjects. Ms Ghemraoui and I explained each elective in detail and even I would have trouble choosing which 2 exciting subjects to pick. Subject choices opened yesterday for the girls and they have until Friday to apply. Students who would like to choose the more vigorous subject STEM must do it by application. I would also like to thank all the Year 8 coordinators for their wonderful afternoon zooms daily at 2:00 pm for your daughters. This timetable will change next term to two zooms per day which is content based not revision. All students will be informed of this next week.

• Year 12

A big shout out to our very resilient and hard working Year 12 cohort who are completing their last week of their assessment block. Their commitment and attitude towards their studies never ceases to amaze me. I truly miss their laughter, presence and seeing their smiling faces every day. The girls have started to receive their care packs in the mail and are so excited and thrilled about this thoughtful idea from Ms Tsoutsa. Some great news for Year 12 that their Formal has been officially moved to Thursday 16 December. But the most exciting news of all is that we have over 60 early university offers already - conditional and unconditional- from a variety of universities including UNSW, WSU, ACU and Notre Dame. Some students have multiple offers. This news is so exciting as it relieves some pressure in what can only be described as the most difficult year to be completing the HSC. Congratulations to the girls who have received early offers so far with many more I am certain still to come.

Deputy Principal Year 10 and 11 - Ms Kaidbay and Ms Garvey

- **Year 10**

Year 10 have continued to work solidly with their Learning from Home. Many of the girls are catching up and getting into a really strong routine. Ms Maroon and Ms Jajieh are continually calling Year 10 students to check-in and support them with their learning from home. Year 10s are reminded that for this term they are having zoom sessions with their teachers most days at 2pm. The Year 11 2022 lines have been established and students who need to make adjustments to their subjects will be interviewed before the holidays. Hopefully they have a great time on Wednesday when a lot of them are planning to catch up on work and take it a bit easier. Thursday should be a great opportunity for the girls to get to know their new Deputy Principal Ms Kaidbay through their Year Adviser and Deputy house zoom sessions.

- **Year 11**

Year 11 have commenced their Final Assessment Tasks yesterday and these will continue up until the holidays. There are different subjects each day, the assessment window is from 10 am until 2 pm each day. On days when students do not have an assessment task, they are to spend the day revising and preparing for their upcoming tasks. Students should be encouraged to check the Year 11 Google Classroom for important messages. There will be no further Zoom sessions or new content this term for Year 11 students. They will recommence their Learning from Home on Tuesday 5 October. Please note that as students will be commencing their Year 12 studies in Term 4, it is compulsory for them to connect to all scheduled zoom sessions. A timetable will be sent to all students and parents prior to the start of Term 4.

Deputy Principal Year 7 and 9 - Ms Minogue

We have been really impressed with the hard work that our year 7 and year 9 students have demonstrated. As the end of term comes near, we encourage you to discuss with your daughter what she has learnt about her work habits and where there is space for improvement. Everyone has strengths and weaknesses in this area and it is important for students to be self aware of these to enable improvement. I know that I have learnt a lot about my own ways of working, and that of my own children. This period is a great opportunity to reflect and build on these.

Thank you to all the parents who have been taking the time to answer our wellbeing check phone calls. It is important to maintain communication throughout this difficult time. Particularly for our year 7 students, these phone calls give us an opportunity to identify students who need extra support from our Learning Support Teachers.

Zoom classes will change for juniors next term to include a morning and afternoon session. These classes will be covering content and it is important that you encourage students to attend, take notes and participate in the learning as it will inform the classwork for the week. Details of these changes will be published next week.

Our tutoring groups have been operating for students that are struggling with particular areas of study. A big thank you to those parents that have supported students to attend tutoring sessions. We understand that at times, this may be difficult to schedule with multiple students in one household. If your daughter is scheduled to attend a tutoring session, please ensure that she does so to get assistance with classwork.

Head Teacher English - Mr Moller

We hope your daughter/s is safe and doing well during this period of at-home learning. We understand that it is harder to learn at home, without the daily support of teachers and peers. But we hope that your daughter is making the most of her time at home and trying her best to work through the activities teachers have created for students in English, History, Drama and Society and Culture. I have seen some wonderful written work from students in all years.

At the start of Term 3, the English/History faculty became two separate faculties. I will be continuing as Head Teacher of English, and Ms Schwiebert is Head Teacher of History. Students in all grades will continue to be taught by their class teacher, even though arrangements are a little different during this period of at-home learning.

Teachers continue to set work for students in all classes, and this work is accessible either through Google Classroom, or in hard copy through packs distributed at school. Please keep encouraging your daughter to attempt the work. She can ask questions about it through regular school hours and we encourage your child to give everything a go. Maybe, too, she could do a bit of reading. Libraries may be closed but English teachers have put together a list of online resources where students can get hold of ebooks or audiobooks. Thank you for working with us. **M. Moller**

Head Teacher English

Head Teacher History - Ms Schwiebert

Our students have produced wonderful work this term and it gives me great pleasure to share with you some examples of this.

In Year 7 History, students have taken part in the study of the Medieval Period in Europe. They analysed a variety of historical sources with their teachers about the citizens of the Medieval period, how they lived, the laws, crime and punishment and entertainment.

These are promotional posters the students made advertising events that Medieval citizens could take part in for entertainment purposes.

The posters are colourful, inviting and of course, historically accurate.



Above by Seray Pekenti

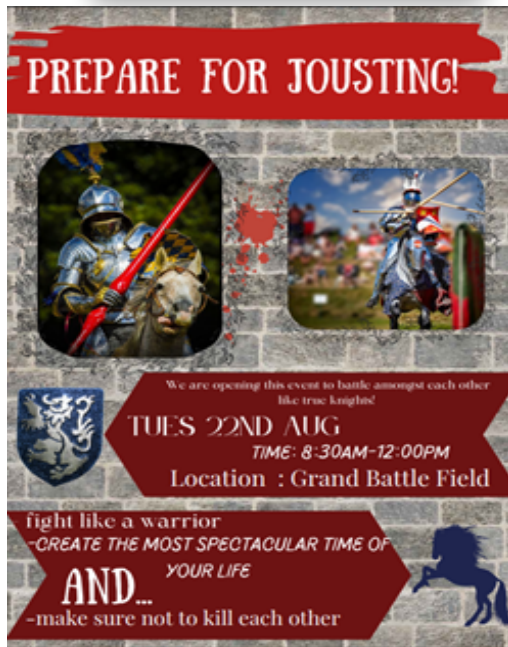
Below by Jayadhra Kodarusman



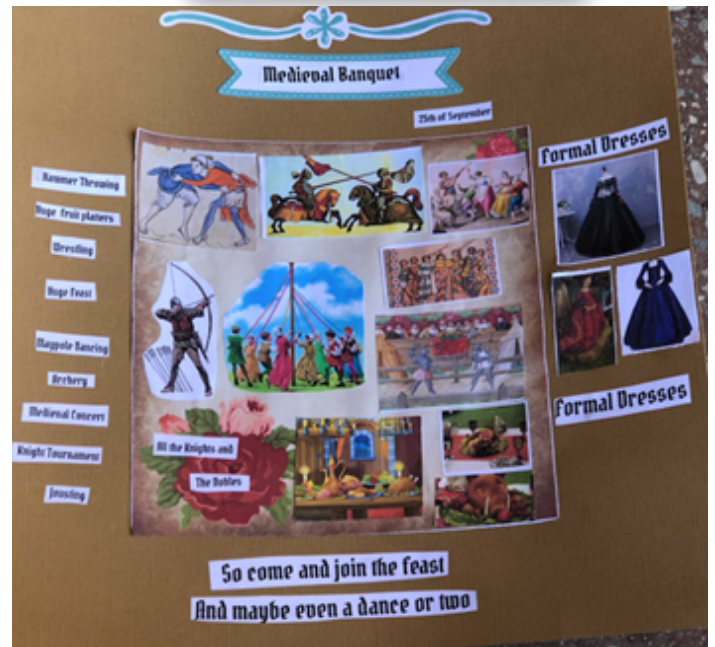
I am very pleased with this effort and proud of our students and I look forward to sharing more with you.

S.Schwiebert
Head Teacher History

Below by Tamana Naim



Below by Amara Alameddine



STARS OF THE WEEK

ONLINE LEARNING GOLD STAR AWARDS

WEEK 8

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Fasiha Poya Tamama Naim Rumaysa Mamdani Atkia Fatiha Rihana Souaid Layla Khazma	Jahnavi Gadale Simran Jeet Saba Kauser Bella Guan Haneen Sayah Diana Zengin	Ella Saadieh Ayouch, Shaymaa Zoya Mukhi Adeena Khan Maryam Hadi Stella Chow	Jana Kassem Alishba Khan Yalda Mohammadi Eman Afzal Hawraa Mohammad Reyhan Abdisamad Hirsi Leanne El-Kheir	Asma Dandan Nidaa Ghantous Zahraa Hammoud Dia Chaker Khadija Zeidan Asra Alaridhi

WEEK 9

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Tamama Naim Rumaysa Mamdani Jaydhra Kodarusman Atkia Fatiha Rihana Souaid Malak Grawak Ayah Nsouli Rahme El Saleh	Nawal Khan Roxanne Pitak Sakina Bahrami Yasmeen Hawashin Rawan Al-Jashaam Nora Bakaloglu	Mary Aoud Khadiga Gungiah Fatima Imran Serena Khatib Sarah Younes	Mahdia Ahmadi Alice Chan Fatima Jafari Annisa Elcheikh Soma Jafari Joyce Zhang	Fatima Sohrabi Christina Kadel Zahra Benkabbour Saffiyah Khan Asra Alaridhi Cecilia Do