Principal’s Report

A term focus of **Aiming for Excellence** has been fruitful and I have been extremely proud of the efforts many girls have made on their semester one reports. Many are taking the opportunity of being involved in extra-curricular activities including the School Musical, SRC, representatives at sporting events and the Social Justice Group. Over 100 girls and their families have been invited to attend our special Academic Excellence Morning Teas over the past few weeks to celebrate receiving top grades on their reports, which is outstanding. It demonstrates their commitment to learning and quest for excellence in their academic studies.

The **Biggest Morning Tea** was organised by the Student Representative Council with the theme of Harry Potter. The day was a fine reminder of the heart for fundraising that our students and staff exhibit. My congratulations go to the girls for their imaginative set-up on the day, and to the staff who entered the spirit of the day with their elaborate costumes (see photos further in this newsletter).

**Year 7 and 8 Parent Teacher Evening** will be held next Thursday and you can access appointments through an online system this year. This is an ideal opportunity for you to meet your daughter’s teachers and discuss their learning journey. We look forward to seeing you on this important evening. Bookings are essential.

Please take time to familiarise yourself with upcoming important dates in this newsletter including: Term 3 return to school, the School Musical (combined with GRC Hurstville Boys Campus), Year 9 and 10 Parent Teacher Evening and GRC Oatley Subject Info/Selection Evenings.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who have stepped up over the past year as we have experienced change in leadership. My particular thanks goes to Mr Treacy, Mr Harrison, Mr Keir, Mrs Sant and Mr Laverence for their substantial commitment to higher duties during this time. The school has continued to prosper throughout this season due to the work of an experienced leadership team and dedicated staff. We welcome Ms Noeline Ross who will commence her appointment as Principal from the beginning of Term 3. Ms Ross has a wealth of knowledge in girls’ education and we look forward to her leadership of GRC Penshurst Girls Campus.

Enjoy the coming school break with your daughters and we wish you a safe and happy holiday.

Mrs Karen Burke
Acting Principal

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**Year 8 Technology**
Year 8 Technology cushions were creatively designed and constructed by the students and incorporated such techniques as ribbon weaving, appliqué, patchwork, machine embroidery and iron-on transfer printing. No two cushions were alike!

Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty

Yr 9 Major Mosaic Projects

Design and Technology (200 hour)
After many weeks of cutting tiles, gluing, grouting and polishing the major mosaic projects have been completed. Students worked with a variety of materials to produce a range of individual designs. The results are outstanding and range from mirror frames to wall plaques to candle holders to stepping stones to garden ornaments. Students not only learnt about the art of mosaics but also acquired project management skills, requiring them to be well organised and motivated throughout the course of the project. Safe work practices and the use of a variety of tools and equipment were also part of this activity. Congratulations girls you should all be very proud of your end products. Major mosaic projects can be viewed in the office foyer area over the next couple of weeks.

Mrs Kathryn Hooper
Head Teacher Technology and Applied Studies

Year 9 Textiles Technology
For the first unit Year 9 were required to construct a skirt with a zipper.

Students constructed a skirt of their choice. These stylish outfits ranged from the short skater skirt, gathered skirt, puffed skirt, fantasy fairy costume to a long skirt with a side split. Students also studied fashion designers and the elements and principles of design.

Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty

Year 7 Shorts
Year 7 students started the term with their shorts construction. Initially some of the girls could not differentiate between a pin and needle. When I started talking to them about putting a hem on their shorts one question asked was "What's a hem Miss"? Well we certainly have come a long way since the start of the unit! All students produced a drawstring bag and a pair of boxer shorts to be proud of! The girls now know how to make a pattern, how to cut and to set up a sewing machine and how to use it safely and effectively. Some of the girls became so competent with their sewing skills that they even applied pockets and lace decoration to further enhance their finished product. So, well done girls!!

Mrs Eva Zeritis
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty

Crafternoon
On Wednesday afternoons while other students have been rushing for their buses and trains, a group of students have remained behind in the Library exploring the possibilities of handmade items at Crafternoon. First semester crafts have included fondant icing creations, basket weaving, blowing and decorating eggs, paper crafts, jewellery making, painting and knitting. Plans for second semester crafts are already underway. Crafternoon is open to students in Years 7-10 and vacancies still exist, though places are limited.

Mrs Virginia Thomson
Religious Education Teacher

Careers Information
Design Centre Enmore Open Day
Open Day is an opportunity for students to visit the college, talk to staff and view student work.
Date: Saturday 21 June 2014, 10am - 3pm.
Place: Sydney TAFE Design Centre, 110 Edgeware Road, Enmore.
The Design Centre offers a range of high level qualifications in:
- Graphic design
- Interior design
- Interior design and decoration
- Jewellery and object design
- Jewellery manufacture
- Industrial design

- Design fundamentals
- Live production
- Illustration
- 3D art and animation
- Interactive digital media

Contact Customer Service during business hours 8:30am - 5pm weekdays on 9394 5700.

The University of Notre Dame
The University of Notre Dame Australia is holding a Parent Information Evening. Students and their parents are most welcome to attend. The evening is an excellent opportunity for parents to learn about University life, talk to current students and meet academic staff.
Date: Tuesday 24 June 2014, 6pm.
Place: Broadway Campus, Building NDS2, St Benedict’s Hall 140 Broadway, Broadway.
Register now and discover more about the transition from school to university: http://prm.ag/3fbIOjZ9gZ
For more information, contact the Prospective Students Office on 02 8204 4404 or sydney@nd.edu.au

Upcoming Dates

Term Dates 2014
Term 2: 29/04 - 27/06
Term 3: 15/07 - 19/09
Term 4: 07/10 - 17/12

Term 2 2014
23-27/06 Year 10 Work Experience
23-24/06 St George Zone Athletics Carnival
26/06 Year 9 Academic Excellence Morning Tea
26/06 Year 7 and Year 8 Parent/Teacher Night
27/06 P&C Second-hand Uniform Shop
27/06 Social Justice Talent Show
27/06 Last day of Term 2

Term 3 2014
14/07 Staff Development Day
15/07 All students return to school
15/07 P&C Meeting
17/07 Year 9 and Year 10 Parent/Teacher Night
18/07 NAIDOC Assembly
18/07 CHS State Cross Country Carnival
22/07 Year 10 Subject Info at GRC Oatley
28/07-1/8 Education Week
29/07 Year 10 Subject Market at GRC Oatley
31/07-1/8 Sydney East Regional Athletics Carnival
01/08 Back to School Assembly
06/08 Year 8 into Year 9 Subject Selection
07/08 Australian Mathematics Competition
11-15/08 Musical Production Week
**New Degrees in Financial Services**

Join the Sydney City campus Open Day to hear about new degrees in banking and financial services. Meet the lecturers. Tour the campus. Meet students, corporate partners and the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Business.

Date: Saturday 30 August 2014, 10am - 2pm.
Place: Sydney Business School, Gateway Building, Level 8, 1 Macquarie Place, Circular Quay
RSVP: Monday 25 August to business-events@uow.edu.au

*Mrs Lisa Royall*  
Careers Adviser

**Penshurst Girls Knit In**

Once again staff and students are undertaking the task of knitting squares for Wrap With Love. If you’d like to join the Knit In, we’d love for you to join us. Just grab some 4mm knitting needles, some 8 ply or DK yarn and start knitting some 10x10 inch squares (each row plain - garter stitch). For those less inclined to knit, we’d also love donations that would enable us to purchase supplies of yarn and needles if you’d like to help out in that way. Wrap with Love is a voluntary project that supports many national and international aid agencies in supplying blankets to relieve the suffering of victims of hyperthermia and trauma.

*Mrs Virginia Thomson*  
Religious Education Teacher

**Study Skills**

**Memory Skills**

Have you ever forgotten where you put your bus pass? Or have you walked confidently into an exam, only to forget what you had just read that morning? A faulty memory might not be the reason, but rather your memorisation techniques. Included below are some methods that might help you to remember important information more clearly. Find one that suits your needs and practice using it over a number of weeks. What may seem awkward at first will become second nature and allow you to access the information that is stored away inside your head.

1. **Acronyms and Acrostics**: (for information involving key words).
   
   An acronym is an invented combination of letters. Each letter is a cue to an idea you need to remember. Example: BRASS is an acronym for how to shoot a rifle—Breath, Relax, Aim, Sight, Squeeze. An acrostic is an invented sentence where the first letter of each word is a cue to an idea you need to remember. Example: EVERY GOOD BOY DESERVES FUN is an acrostic to remember the order of G-clef notes on sheet music—E, G, B, D, F. A Science example is "COWS MOO SOFTLY" an acrostic used to remember the variables in a fair test -- Change Measure Same and another "I Don't Care" - Independent Dependent Control.

2. **Peg**: (for lists).
   
   First, memorise key words that can be associated with numbers. For instance, bun with one; shoe with two, tree with three, door with four, hive with five, etc. Next create an image of the items you need to remember with key words. For example, if you had to remember the four basic food groups—dairy products; meat, fish, and poultry; grains; and fruit and vegetables—imagine cheese on a bun, cows with shoes on, a sack of grain suspended in a tree, and opening a door to a room full of fruits and vegetables.

3. **The Loci Method**: (for approximately twenty items).
   
   Select any location that you have spent a lot of time in and have easily memorised. Imagine yourself walking through the location, selecting clearly defined places—the door, sofa, refrigerator, shelf, etc. Imagine yourself putting objects that you need to remember into each of these places by walking through this location in a direct path. Again, you need a standard direct path and clearly defined locations for objects to make it easy to retrieve these objects. For example if you had to remember Michael Jackson, 5 Seconds of Summer and Pink, you could imagine walking up to the door of your location and seeing a glove stuck in the door; when you open the door 5 Seconds of Summer are dancing on the sofa and Pink is eating out of the refrigerator.

4. **The Keyword Method**: (for foreign language vocabulary).
   
   First, after considering the foreign word you need to remember, select a key word in English that sounds like the foreign word. Next, imagine an image, which involves the key word with the English meaning of the foreign word. For example, consider the Spanish word "cabina" which means "phone box." For the English keyword, you might think of "cab in a ..." You could then invent an image of a cab trying to fit in a phone box. When you see the word "cabina" on the test, you should be able to recall the image of the cab and you should be able to retrieve the definition "phone box."

5. **The Image-Name Technique**: (for remembering names).
   
   Simply invent any relationship between the name and the physical characteristics of the person. For example, if you had to remember Harry Styles' name, you might cement the name in memory by noticing that he is "hairy" (rhymes with Harry) and "smiles" (Styles).

6. **Story Method**: (for lists).
   
   Create a story where each word or idea you have to remember cues the next idea you need to recall. If you had to remember the words Napoleon, ear, door, and Germany, you could invent a story of Napoleon with his ear to a door listening to people speak in German.


*Mrs Sally Pankhurst*  
Head Teacher Engagement
Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received awards:

Bronze Award
Year 8: Dominique A. and Jesslyn C.

Silver Award
Year 8: Dominique A. and Sophie G.

Photo Gallery

Toolbox Course for Parents of Adolescents @ Georges River Life Care

Course Description
Parenting a teenager can be like riding a roller coaster, full of unpredictable ups and downs. This program provides parents with insight into the internal world of teens and pre-teens. This is a fantastic course designed to help parents address the challenges of adolescents. The course provides tools to equip your teenager with a strong sense of self, responsibility and resourcefulness, and to help you on your journey of letting go and handing over some of the controls as your young person learns to fly solo.

Topics include:
- Atmosphere
- Communication
- Boundaries
- Discipline
- Healthy Thinking
- Dating and Romance

Dates: Thursdays 24 July – 28 Aug
Times: 7:15pm – 9:30pm
Location: Georges River Life Centre
Address: 23 Stanley St Peakhurst 2210
Cost: $70 pp (manual included)
Partners $40 (if sharing the manual. (Concessions available)
Enquiries: 9153 6300
Bookings: Places on each course are limited, so bookings are essential at http://www.gric.org.au/parenting/
Hello all

Well another term is almost over, where has the time gone.

At our June meeting we were joined by three staff members, Mrs Kathryn Hooper - Head Teacher Technology and Applied Studies, Ms Oonagh McGarrity- Head Teacher Welfare and Mrs Sally Pankhurst - Head Teacher Engagement who were requesting funding for their respective faculties. I am happy to say that the P&C has approved the following funding requests made, TAS - $4,051.00 to fund two new ovens, a deep fryer unit and the purchase of a 3D printer which is very exciting. Welfare - $4,000.00 towards the Years 7 to 10 YAP (Year Adviser Program) days and $500.00 for the Homework Centre to provide afternoon snacks for the students who attend.

The next P&C Meeting will be held on 15 July 2014 in the Staff Common Room at 7.00pm. This will be the first meeting attended by our new principal Ms Noeline Ross. This will be a wonderful opportunity to welcome Ms Ross to our school.

Our guest speaker will be Lisa Royall, Careers Adviser, who will be talking to parents regarding the upcoming Year 10 Subject Market and Subject Selection. Hope to see some Year 10 parents there.

I would like to also take this opportunity to warmly thank Mrs Karen Burke and Mr Mark Treacy for taking such good care of our school and our girls during the past 16 months, your dedication to our girls and our school has been outstanding.

If you are unable to attend the meeting please contact me to add your email address to the email list and we will forward the minutes from each meeting to keep you informed.

Mrs Helen James - P&C President
Mobile: 0410 296 092
Email: helenjames6@optusnet.com.au

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Chinese Translation

The Principal’s Report translated into Chinese is available on the website a few weeks after the publication date.

Library Homework Centre

When??? On Mondays and Tuesdays in the Library

324
It’s FREE

It is in the Homework Centre, a Maths teacher is available on both days ....

Other specialty teachers are also available.

A teacher list will be in the Library.

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