1 April 2015

**Principals Message**

**Year 12**

Year 12 have completed their half year examinations and have been in classes during the last 2 weeks of term 1. During these lessons, they have been receiving extensive, in depth, comprehensive, individual feedback about their exam performance and how they can do better next time. The final 5-6 lessons of the term were very valuable teaching and learning opportunities. Although the assessment component of their final HSC mark is cumulative assessment, it is not too late for students to regroup, learn from their mistakes and successes and put in a bigger effort in subsequent assessment tasks. I hope that parents would continue to encourage their children to keep trying. They can make up ground.

**P & C**

The Annual general meeting of the GRC Oatley Campus P and C was held on Tuesday 24 March. Thank you to the parents who volunteered their services in the 3 executive positions and thank you to the parents who attended. The P & C Office Bearers for 2015 are:-

President: Anne Sterling  
Secretary: Helen James  
Treasurer: Joanna Earl  
Support for Bus Hire - $5,000  
Parent SMS notification - $6000  
iPAD and technology projects - $5000  
SASS support - $4000

Thank you to the P&C for supporting us with the purchase of these valuable resources. I encourage all parents to join the P&C. Send your email address to the school and we will add you to the mailing list.

**WEBSITE**

The Website has a wealth of information for students and parents. It contains access to information about our school, curriculum, activities, caring for students, calendars, assessments, the campus moodle. As well there are links to other valuable sites such as BOSTES, TAFE, Department of Education and Communities.

**N Warning Letters**

Unfortunately every year, 20-30 students do not receive their Year 11 Preliminary HSC or HSC. This means they have not met the course requirements and worked with sustained effort and diligence [all terms of the course Warning letters are sent to parents and two warning letters may result in a non-award in the subject]. When a student is at the second warning stage, a bright red label is attached to the letter requesting a parent interview. At this stage, many students tell their parents, “Everything is OK, I have fixed it.” The letter has been sent because the missed work has not been fixed. Making appointments at the end of the course when the final ‘N’ determination is given is too late. Promising to catch up on the missed work at the end of the course is too late. Sustained effort and diligence is working throughout the whole course.

Please if you get an ‘N’ Warning letter, it is serious.

**SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

GRC is a uniform school. As we move into the cooler months, students require a GRC jumper or jacket. White undergarments can be worn to increase warmth. With the school holidays upon us, this is the ideal time to purchase these items ready for term 2. A reminder that hoodies are banned at the school and black leather shoes are required. Canvas shoes do not meet safety requirements.

A GRC Cardigan is now available for purchase at Lowes Hurstville

**WHO TO CALL IF…..**

Some parents have mentioned that it is difficult to know which staff member they should contact regarding issues and events at school. So I have included below the list of staff areas of responsibility for 2015. Please phone 02 85673700 and then ask to be transferred to the person responsible as per the below list.

**STAFF DUTIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRINCIPAL</td>
<td>Kate McRae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – YR11</td>
<td>Neale Harries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPUTY PRINCIPAL – YR12</td>
<td>Karen Burke</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEAD TEACHER – ENGLISH</td>
<td>Grant Kennedy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAD TEACHER – MATHEMATICS</td>
<td>Sophie Ventouris</td>
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<td>HEAD TEACHER – SCIENCE</td>
<td>Scott Mackenzie</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEAD TEACHER – HSIE</td>
<td>Narelle Straney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAD TEACHER – PD/H/PE</td>
<td>Paul Xenikos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEAD TEACHER – CAPA</td>
<td>Angela Pryce</td>
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**Head Teachers**

- **TAS:** Kate Mulligan
- **VET:** Tony Allison
- **WELFARE – YR11:** Kevin Wright
- **WELFARE – YR12:** Margret Zauss

**Support Staff**

- **College Band:** Angela Pryce – HT CAPA
- **Community Engagement Officer:** James Munro
- **Computer Tech Support:** Rob Terry – IT Support
- **Counselling Services:** Robyn Watkins
- **ESL Support:** Andrew France & Peter Chapman
- **Events Hospitality:** Danika Kalan
- **Federation:** Cameron White
- **Integration:** Karen Burke
- **IRIS:**
  - Student Support Team: Jennifer Edwards / Neale Harries
  - Student Support Team: Karen Burke
- **Last Library:** Voula Alexiou
  - Newsletters: Caron Baumgartner
- **LOTE:** Paul Xenikos
- **Newsletter:** Alex Gardiner
- **Workplace Health & Safety:** Cameron White
- **Open High School:** Jessica Davies
- **Performance:** Angela Pryce
- **UNI Students/Prof. Ex. Placement:** Pat Kenny
- **Professional Learning:** Karen Burke
- **Public Speaking / Debating:** Nathan Compton
- **RISC:** Neale Harries
- **Saturday School:** Jessica Davies
- **Sports Organiser:** Rae Williams
- **SRC:** Rebecca Jamieson
- **Support Unit:** Brendan Dalley
- **TAFE Team / Meeting Cycle:** Karen Burke / Penny Morrison
- **Careers:** Penny Morrison
- **VET:** Tony Allison
- **P&C Secretary:** Helen James
- **P&C Treasurer:** Joanne Earl

**Dates for Term 2**

- Tues 28 April - Yr 12 Parent Teacher Afternoon 4-7pm
- Wednesday 29 April – Yr 11 study skills presentation session 1
- Monday 11 May - Yr 11 Parent Teacher Afternoon 4-7pm
- Tuesday 26 May - Parent Information Night - The Truths and Myths of the HSC. Presented by the Board of Studies Liaison Officer from the Board
- Thursday 29 May – Year 11 exams begin

**Kate McRae**

**Principal**

**Language HSC Results - 2014**

Dimitrios Karanikolas has achieved the highest Band in all his language courses!

Outstanding results!

**Modern Greek Extension** = Band E4 (highest band in Extension courses) 49/50, 4th in the State.

- **Modern Greek Continuers** - Band 6
- **French Beginners** - Band 6
- **Italian Beginners** - Band 6

On Sunday 1st of March 2015 the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW had its annual Dionysios Solomos Awards, at Sydney University, as part of the 33rd Greek Festival of Sydney 2015.

The students honoured in the ceremony were NSW Higher School Certificate students who have achieved the highest marks in Modern Greek and Classical Greek as well as students of the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW Afternoon and Saturday Schools who were awarded with the Minister’s Award for their excellence in the Modern Greek Language.

Dimitrios Karanikolas (4th in the state for Extension Modern Greek) and Petros Laloukiotis (8th in the state for Extension Modern Greek) were both recipients of Dionysios Solomos Awards.

Petros Laloukiotis has also achieved excellent results in both Continuers and Extension Modern Greek courses. He achieved Band 6 in Modern Greek Continuers and Band E4 (highest band in Extension courses) in Modern Greek Extension. Petros Laloukiotis came 8th in Extension Modern Greek in the state.

Congratulations to Dimitri and Petros! We wish them all the very best in their future endeavours.

**Florentia Rossides**

**Language Teacher**

**Music**

‘ENCORE’ a showcase of exemplary music performances from the 2014 HSC will be held on Monday 9th March at the Sydney Opera House. All music students are encouraged to attend. Tickets are $36 and may be purchased at the front office. Please encourage your child to attend.
Music students will also be involved in “In Concert 2015” to be held at the Sydney Town Hall on Monday 18th May. In Concert is a performance of instrumental and vocal items involving a choir of over 600 students from over NSW. The featured performer this year is the Australian ‘indie’ performer/composer LIR.

This will involve 3 rehearsal days and the evening performance.

Annette Lynch

GRC AFL Team

I had the pleasure of coaching a combined Oatley/Peakhurst AFL team today at the Swans Cup. I wanted to let you know what a delight it was to coach your boys. They were polite and respectful and made the day a lot of fun for all involved. Please pass this onto the students involved: Josaiah Finau, Kennan El Etri, Jayden Geddes, Manu Holmwood, Soieli Cox, Zac Higgins, and Peter Polutele.

Elise Whiley
PDHPE Teacher/Year 7 Student Advisor
Georges River College Peakhurst Campus

The GRC Way

Congratulations to two students who really showed fantastic community spirit by helping a stranger push their broken down car out of traffic.

Well Done to Adam Nehme and Mohamed Alachi

Visual Arts Excursion

Earlier this year, yr 11 and yr 12 Visual Arts students were lucky enough to spend an afternoon with Australian contemporary artist and filmmaker, George Gittoes at Hazelhurst Art Gallery. On exhibit was the first major survey in Australia of the Gittoes' work. The exhibition, I Witness, presented a chronological display of Gittoes’ paintings, drawings, and artist diaries from the fields of war, as well as installation and film, over his 40 year career. The exhibition documented sites of cultural conflict including Nicaragua and the Philippines in the 1980s, Rwanda, Cambodia and the Middle East in the 1990s, and more recently Pakistan, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Nikola Cvijetic
Year 12 Student

Year 11 Geography Excursion

On Wednesday the 18th of March, nine students from Year 11 went on a Geography fieldwork excursion to the Royal National Park. Our class was studying the biophysical interactions of the Wallumarra Track. Our guide, Julie, took us on a walk through the heath of the Wallumarra track, to the woodlands and down into the rainforest and provided us with her years of knowledge of the area. We were able to observe the biophysical characteristics of various sites along the walk, environmental
issues, management strategies, general climate, bushfire management schemes and the natural fauna and wildlife. A fun day accompanied by Mr. Wright and Mrs. Burgess that was enjoyed by everyone. Not only did the excursion give us the fieldwork we require for our geography course, but also gave us an opportunity to get to know one another in our class and our teachers to get to know us. We had plenty of unwanted encounters with leeches as the girls went screaming through the rainforest and the boys not far behind, laughing uncontrollably. Besides the leeches, it was a fantastic day that year 11 geography students next year should look forward to.

Carly Rooney
HSIE Teacher

Davidson Shield Knock Cricket Win

What a win the boys had over Tempe!!

Great Team effort!!! Of a stand out Peter POLUTELE a huge hitter who got some quick fire runs and bowled well. Joshua MATTHEWS great bowling getting an important hatrick to complete the win.

Also special mention to Luke Mansour and Brendan Stepto from the Peakhurst campus that both batted excellently in particular Luke who made over 70 runs and was the difference between the two teams

Alex Gardiner
Teacher

International Women’s Day Breakfast

On Friday the 6th of March, 4 of our SRC students were selected to attend the International Women’s Day Breakfast (IWD) held in the Exhibition Centre located in Redfern Technology Park.

International Women’s Day is a global day run by UN Women which occurs on March 8th, it celebrates the economic, political and social achievements of women past, present and future. It is an event which is growing in momentum, with approximately 10,000 people attending the breakfast event this year alone.

Presented by both men and women such as the CEO of Commonwealth Bank: Ian Narev, the Sex Discrimination Commissioner Elizabeth Broderick, NSW Premier: Mike Baird and many more renowned guests, it was clear that all the guests advocated and strived to achieve gender equality.

The speeches illustrated the issues women around the world currently faced such as gender inequality, domestic violence and inequality in the work force, with the main message of “let’s not wait another 20 years for gender equality”. It was also a day which celebrated the many achievements of women, with a panelist of accomplished women such as Miriam Silva, the Acting Chief Executive of TAFE SA and Mele Maualaivo the Country Programme coordinator of UN Women.

From our experiences of this day we have learnt that we have a lot of work to do but we can get there if we all work together, “a man needs a woman when his life’s a mess, because just like a game of chess - the queen protects the king” Happy Woman’s day.

Written By Students: Azaria Rogers, Sarasvathy Widjaja, Carl Pfeil, Jay

Alex Gardiner
Teacher