**Kingsgrove North High School** 

# The Way North

PRAESTE MUS

No 8, 2019

# Our Community Newsletter No. 8, 2019

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# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As we come to the end of another year I would like to look back and highlight some of the special events that have taken place this year, our 60th Anniversary year.

On December 7 we celebrated with an Open day for past staff and students which was very well attended. The Open Day involved an opening in the school hall with a speech from myself as well as a PowerPoint of the school over the 60 years. The PowerPoint was put together by Linda Chegwidden our Head Teacher History who spent many hours producing a wonderful timeline of the past 60 years.

The anniversary was the culmination of many months of work with many staff involved in different areas. It was a very special day for Kingsgrove North and it highlights what a special school we have how much past students and staff still value our school.





This year we hosted visits by several senior members of the Department as well as opened our school for conferences to other schools and specialised training in our technology centre.

The annual Showcase was again a big success with our neighbouring schools and the COS showband concert was again held with a large parent audience to see their children perform as a large orchestra with three primary schools. We also hosted a number of large professional development events for other schools as well as the ABCN launch.

Our STEM and Drone workshops have continued to grow and this year we had the following schools involved: Campsie, Beverly North, McCullums Hill, Clemton Park, Undercliffe, Hardcourt, Wiley Park and Bexley North. This valuable program will again be offered in 2020 and has made our connection with the community even stronger.

We also hosted Year 5 as part of our Orientation Day and this is the fifth year that we have hosted this event. It was pleasing to see so many primary school students here at the school enjoying the new facilities and what we have to offer.







New facilities were also completed such as the Indoor soccer area, the new commercial kitchen, the senior study area in the library, the senior PDHPE room, the Maths centre and the Senior Science room. Rooms have also had some new printed blinds installed with more to come next year as well as faculty murals around the school.



Over the summer break there will be more work carried out with a large cover over the new soccer arena and we are hoping that work can commence on the oval with new turf laid and a new sprinkler system installed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my staff for all their hard work this year. They have risen above and beyond when we have had to pull together to make sure all the special events that we have organised went smoothly. Thanks to the SASS staff who have continually supported our school and also worked tirelessly, and to the school executive for their continual support and hard-working efforts during the year.

Finally, a special thank you to Mr McKeown and Ms Bardouh who have worked hard and supported me as Deputies. I appreciate all the hard work and help that all my staff across the school have provided to me.

#### I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe 2020.

**Angelo Stasos** 

Principal

# YEAR 7 REPORT

On the 3rd December Year 7 KNHS students (and teachers!) enjoyed an excursion to the Cables Aqua Park in Penrith. At the aqua park students were able to use their newly learnt swimming skills on the huge range of massive inflatable slides, runways, jumping pillows and many other indescribable structures! Overall the day was a huge success with nothing but blue skies and positive feedback from the friendly staff at the Cables Aqua Park. Can't wait for next year!



# YEAR 8 REPORT

So we have come to the end of another year! Boy, that went quick!!

Last week, our Year 8 students went out on an end of year excursion to Raging Waters. We had a great turn out but I would really like to encourage those who did not attend, to make an effort and join us next year because we had such a great day! Our Year 8 students were a credit to the school. They were so well behaved and I want to thank them for making the day such an easy day of fun and laughter!

Next year will be another big year. I have a list of wonderful events and programs that I would like to implement for the students and I truly believe that they will be valuable and meaningful experiences. There will also be a camp next year and I'm looking forward to that because we had so much fun last time we went away.

Finally, I hope all my Year 8 students have a relaxing break. Please take care and stay safe, and I will see you all again in 2020 for Year 9!!!!!

Merry Christmas!

Angela Faros

Year Advisor

#### YEAR 11 REPORT

This was such an amazing introduction to the semester as many students of Year 11 have had the opportunity to shine in different ways. As a year advisor I couldn't be more proud of the willingness to take on extra-curricular activities throughout the term, regardless of the plentifully amount of work.

Firstly, four amazing Year 11 students- Elana F, James Z, Jonah L and Adam R just completed a 22 week program called Max Potential. This is an innovative Leadership Development Program that connects high school students with business leaders as their mentors and the local communities. Through partnership with Clubs NSW, Max Potential encourages young adults to accelerate their potential, build a can-do attitude, explore their entrepreneurial spirit and challenge themselves to lift their game.

These students were able to collaborate with their mentors and help the community with their resources. James collected toys and games for the Shine Room at Burwood Woman's Domestic Violence Courts. These services help children and their parents who have difficult challenges ahead. Elana was able to increase our students' knowledge about the impact our NSW Fire Brigade have on our lives, and Adam increased our awareness of Drug and Alcohol abuse in teenagers today. Finally Jonah was able to provide toothpaste and blankets to a homeless shelter in Redfern. What an outstanding effort and it was most rewarding to see how the confidence of the students grew throughout the process.



Secondly, Parliament of NSW invited all secondary school students to nominate one Year 11 student who was then required to submit an application to attend the New South Wales State Constitutional Convention. One hundred students are selected annually to participate in this program. This one-day convention is part of a national program for Year 11 students to consider issues relating to the Australian Constitution. Helleni T, our School Captain 2020, was one of the selected one hundred students to participate in such an empowering event for our youth. She is to be congratulated for an outstanding effort and who knows- maybe we should watch this space for bigger things to come.

Thirdly, Mr Stasos( Principal), Mr Kennedy (Head Teacher English) and Ms Varvaressos (Year Advisor) got to witness Sapphira C's speech at Mortdale RSL on the 14/11/19 as she was nominated to participate in the Youth of the Year Award supported by Lions Club Lugarno. Her preparation and deliverance were exceptional. She really did the school proud and is to be commended for her effort.





Finally, Year 11 have entered their final senior year and on behalf of all the teachers we wish them every success. May they take the opportunity to use the HSC Study Hub and Ms Gullota's resources on a daily basis to support their learning. Students have the opportunity to make appointments for individual assistance on tasks, advice for revision, and conversation about Mental Health. Also the Homework Centre on Thursday afternoon continues to operate.

Kind regards

**Mrs Varvaressos** 

#### ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

In my final administration report for 2019, I would like to start by thanking all the casual staff that have worked at our school in 2019. You have been dedicated and loyal to our school and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2020.

Now to some NESA news....I would like to remind all Year 12 2020 students that the blue subject dropping/changing form will need to be signed by the Deputy, The Librarian and Office staff before it comes to me to be signed and processed in the Schools Online.

In 2020, I will also be organising more NESA year meetings on different requirements now needed for Year 10, 11 and 12 students. These meetings will take place throughout the year when key NESA requirements are due. They will start from the time the signing of the conformation of entry document is due, to the HSC rules and procedures, through towards assessment periods and the scheduling of HSC exams.

I wish all the KNHS families a wonderful holiday period.

Miss Dimitra Tsiotsioras

Head Teacher Administration

#### **MODEL MAKING CLUB**

The Model Making club has been working on big projects to provide dioramas for the cabinets in the library. They are also working on providing entries for the NSW Anzac memorial awards in 2020. The last Thursday afternoon of the year was held on the 12th of December with a dedicated group of boys working very enthusiastically under the guidance of our military historian and parent, Mr Joseph Macintosh, who has dedicated his time every week to working with the students. In February next year he will have spent 10 years with the Model Making club assisting many students over the years.



Linda Chegwidden

#### SCHOOL PLAY

Students in KNHS's play, "You Got Talent!", performed on Wednesday the 4th December and Friday 6th December, 2019 in the hall at 7 pm before an enthusiastic audience. Supported by a capable crew, production team and two hilarious hosts, the performances by the cast were exceptionally talented, fun and highly entertaining. Against all odds, the cast and crew prevailed to stage their unique play within only a 7 week production schedule. What an extraordinary achievement for these talented students and our school! Thank you to all who supported, encouraged or attended the play!



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS EXCURSION

On Thursday the 12th of December, 36 International students and Chinese Program helpers had an excursion to Sydney Harbour in the morning and Sydney University in the afternoon, accompanied by Ms Baker and Ms Chegwidden.

The students experienced an excellent Harbour Story cruise which included an interesting commentary on Sydney's iconic landmarks such as the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, Royal Botanic Gardens, Garden Island Naval Base, Taronga Zoo, Government House, palatial waterfront homes, Fort Denison and much more.

In the afternoon the students were able to have a tour of Sydney University, including the Nicholson Museum, a graduation ceremony in the historic Quadrangle and other interesting faculty buildings.

The students were excited, respectful and were a credit to the school. They reported that they enjoyed the day and gained many insights into our city's sites and history.

#### Linda Chgegwidden















# 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

On December 7 we celebrated with an Open day for past staff and students which was very well attended. The anniversary was the culmination of many months of work with many staff involved in different areas. It was a very special day for Kingsgrove North and it highlights what a special school we have how much past students and staff still value our school.

















#### PE SPORTS PRESENTATION

On Tuesday the 10th of Dec the annual KNHS Sports Presentation was held to recognise the sporting achievements of students both in sport in school and outside of school. Our students were also able to be awarded for many zone level achievements and for their contribution to the sporting community by our sponsor Kingsgrove Sports Store. It was a successful presentation with both students and parents thoroughly engaging in the proceedings. Congratulations to all of the award recipients!

#### Costa D'Addona











# **ORIENTATION DAY**

This is the fifth year that we have hosted this event and it was pleasing to see so many primary school students here at the school enjoying the new facilities and what we have to offer. We also hosted Year 5 as part of our Orientation Day this year.





# SOCIAL SCIENCE NEWS

# **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPENT**

Recently, ten teachers from both Kingsgrove North High School and Kingsgrove High School were involved in a Professional Learning session at Kingsgrove North. It was an initiative to try to reduce the workload of Social Science teachers by sharing responsibility for various tasks and opening dialogue about assessment tasks, excursions and ways to engage our students more effectively. It was a productive session, which will be followed up by the individual schools, and then resources etc will be shared. In particular, the focus was on the new Commerce syllabus, which will be introduced next year. It was good to hear how other schools approach their Teaching and Learning, with many positive ideas shared. I would like to thank Mr Appleby (Head Teacher- Social Science at Kingsgrove High School) for helping to organise the session. The aim will be to make this a regular event between the two neighbouring schools.

#### THANK YOU TO SOCIAL SCIENCE STAFF

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the teachers who have taught Social Science subjects this year – Mr Walters, Ms Pappas, Ms Cheng, Ms Tang, Mrs Casey and Ms Kabbara. Thank you for supporting me in my role as Acting Head Teacher and for all the hard work that you have put in to get the most out of our students. A particular thank you to Ms Cheng, Ms Tang and Mrs Casey who have worked in the faculty this year, filling in for teachers on leave. Their efforts have been very much appreciated, and we wish them all the best in the coming year. On behalf of the faculty, I wish students and their families all the best over the summer break.

#### **Dianne Tsitsos**

Acting Head Teacher – Social Science



#### **LEGAL STUDIES EXCUSION**

The Year 11 Legal Studies class attended the Downing Centre Local and District Courts for an excursion on the 2nd December, 2019. Students were able to consolidate, and further extend their knowledge of the legal system and the operations of the courts. Students experienced a variety of courtrooms from sentencing rooms, to first hearing and first mention rooms. Courtroom 4.5 had many short sentencing matters and a few students were lucky enough to speak to the Judge and a Barrister in the courtroom. They were able to ask questions relating to their experience with the legal system and in particular the case that was just presented. Other students looked at the more serious legal matters within the courts and were fortunate enough to see a judge, jury and evidence presented. Overall, the experience was valuable and improved student understanding of key terms and legal concepts.

#### Ms. Kabbara

Legal Studies Teacher

#### CAPA NEWS

We have had another busy and successful term in CAPA with our students continuing to remain focused and positive in meeting their learning outcomes and gaining new skills in many material practices in a range of subjects.

Year 7 Visual Arts worked with numeracy and symmetry as a focus in one of our 'Fantastic Animals' tasks, students were required to create insects using symmetry, space, dimensions and time. The task was a huge success with our students enjoying the process and end results. Year 7 Music students learnt about the diversity of Australian music including First Nation music through to contemporary popular musical artist. These students also completed a listening and theory test as well as performing an Australian song.



Year 8 Visual Arts focused on technology in the classroom this semester creating some wonderful Graphic Interchangeable Formats (GIFS) using Photoshop and GIF making programs. The aim was to introduce students to the basics in Abobe Photoshop and build their skills using programs and technologies they may have not used before. Students created some imaginative and interactive GIFs in the theme of their semester topic Australian Stories. Year 8 Music students studied Music for Film and TV this term. They completed a listening exam and also learnt to play a range of various themes on keyboard or guitar.







Year 9 students studied musical theatre this term and completed a musicology assessment task. A few of these students have been trained to assist audio/visual operation in the hall for various special events such as the Girls Day presentation, 60th Anniversary presentation, Sports Award ceremony and Presentation Night.



Year 10 Visual Arts worked on their literacy skills, with a focus on building their essay writing using scaffolding, ToPEAL, ALARM, the literacy focus assisted in their end of year assessment task and to enhance their skills and confidence in essay writing as they approach their senior years of learning.



Year 12PDM have completed their first assessment task, creating Geometric Abstract Artworks using Photoshop. Their focus for the task was to create an interesting photograph that focused on dimensions, shapes, colour and composition, this again incorporates our numeracy and technology focus in our CAPA classrooms. Year 12 have completed some excellent work. Year 12 Music cohort have spent a lot of time this term creating their own music with technology. Their first assessment task as HSC Music students required them to compose and record music to a film scene and then discuss the differences between their composition and the original score in a viva voce presentation.



As we approach the end of Term 4 and the end of another year in CAPA, we would like to acknowledge all CAPA students in stages 4, 5 and 6 for their commitment to producing work of a high standard and meeting their learning outcomes for the year. I would also like to thank all CAPA staff for their dedication to their subject areas and specialities. We look forward to an even bigger and more successful year next year!

#### Dioni Karpathakis Rel. Head Teacher CAPA

# ENGLISH NEWS

2019 has been another positive and productive year in English. It has been wonderful to be part of the learning journey of all the students at Kingsgrove North and I congratulate them on their efforts in English this year. Particular congratulations go to those students whose work has been published in the 2019 English Best Work Book.

I would also like to take the opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all the English staff for their ongoing dedication and hard work.

Thank you to Angela Faros - for her dedicated work as the Year 8 Curriculum Coordinator; Michael Elakis - it has been fantastic having you teach this term and great to have you back in 2020; Alamira Ayoubi – for your never-ending enthusiasm for English Studies; Kate Bastas - for the caring and positive way you teach all your classes; Cveta Grackoska - for your ongoing dedication to help all students across the school; Olga Hiotis - for your great efforts in teaching the new Advanced English syllabus; Angela Pyliotis - for your absolute dedication to your EAL/D classes; Lydia Gullotta – for your valuable role as senior mentor; Chryssi Houry Tsanidis - for all the efforts you have made this year; Ilia Ioannou - it has been lovely to have you join us this year, Sel Kurt - for the passion and dedication you have put into your classes and to the school play; and also a special mention to Stuart Angus and Alex McGill who have both made important contributions throughout the year but have taken leave.

It is always appropriate at this time of year to reflect on past experiences and plan for a relaxing and rejuvenating holiday. Hopefully these holidays are filled with plenty of both! It is also timely to consider that in our contemporary 21st century world it is, sadly, incredibly easy to be swept away for hours on a wave of technological "interaction". Staring at a screen, clicking away with a mouse or a game controller or resolutely popping in earphones and shutting out the world can be relaxing but also very isolating and oft mind-numbing. I would encourage all students to take the opportunity these holidays to engage with a technology detox and open their mind to other forms of entertainment – like BOOKS, for example. Ray Bradbury stated, in response to questions regarding his didactic Fahrenheit 451 that;

"There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them.".

So, with the wonder of six weeks of holidays stretching ahead I encourage all students to read a book, or two, and open their eyes to the world beyond their own experience!

Nicholas Kennedy

Head Teacher English

# THE HSC MINIMUM STANDARD

#### The HSC minimum standard

The HSC minimum standard is part of an effort to improve the literacy and numeracy outcomes for students. From 2020, students in NSW will need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive their HSC. The HSC minimum standard is a way of supporting and ensuring students have a functional level of literacy and numeracy.

The HSC minimum standard is set at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework which outlines the functional skills used in everyday life, for work and further study.

This framework provides detailed information on the three areas in which the students will be tested: Reading, Writing and Numeracy.

#### How does a student show that they have achieved the HSC minimum standard?

If a student sat the 2017 NAPLAN test and earned a band 8 in reading, writing and numeracy they will be deemed as meeting the HSC minimum standard in Reading, Writing and Numeracy and will not have to sit the HSC minimum standard tests. Any student, regardless of when they complete their HSC, who did not receive a band 8 in reading, writing or numeracy in 2017 NAPLAN will be required to sit the HSC minimum standard test in all areas in which they did not receive a band 8.

The student must achieve a level 3 in each test. This aligns with level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF) which is considered the level required to function in everyday life, for work and further study.

#### The current year 10 and the online HSC minimum standard tests

To achieve an HSC in 2021 and beyond, all students must sit the HSC minimum standard online tests in reading, writing and numeracy. Each of the three tests are of 45 minutes duration. The writing test consists of a response of up to 500 words to one written or visual prompt, and the other two are 45 multiple choice questions.

Schools will advise you when your child will sit the online tests. Before doing this, however, students can complete the online practice tests at school using their Schools Online account as many times as is practicable.

Once the HSC minimum standard is achieved in all three areas, a student is eligible to receive the HSC.

The administration of these tests is an important job in a school. Parent support of this administration is very important, especially in ensuring student attendance. A letter will be sent to parents/carers about the timing of the tests. Having students attend school punctually and ready to sit the test will be very much appreciated by the team of staff involved.

# The current year 11 and the HSC 2020

Students sitting the HSC in 2020 will be the first to have their HSC linked to a minimum standard. For these students now in Year 11, the minimum standard is linked to their 2017 Year 9 NAPLAN results. Many students have already met the standard through achieving a band 8 or higher in all three areas: reading, writing and numeracy.

Those who are yet to achieve the standard will sit online tests in the area where they achieved below a band 8 in numeracy, reading or writing.

Students can sit the online tests twice a year, in Year 11 and 12 and up to five years after they start the HSC.

What is a minimum .

# What is a minimum standard report?

Students can access their minimum standard test results through their Schools Online account. They can also print a minimum standard report that clearly shows the level (1-4) that they achieved in the test. Level 3 is the minimum standard.



# Support for students with additional needs

Some students with additional needs will be eligible for provisions for the minimum standard tests. These provisions can be approved by the principal.

This means it is a good idea to make sure the learning support team at the school is fully aware of the needs that concern you and that you have acquired documentation that confirms your child's additional needs. The earlier that the school is aware of the needs, the better prepared the school will be to determine both the timing of the test and the extra provisions that will enable your child to have equitable access to the test.

The learning support team will liaise with the principal about extra provisions for the HSC minimum standard tests.



# Apprenticeships, Traineeships and other career qualifications

ATC is offering school leavers an opportunity to explore their career options and find a pathway to a successful future.

Join us along with other interested young people, to learn and explore employment options that are available to you in the fields of Sport & Recreation, Business, Information Technology (IT), Fitness, Horticulture, Landscaping, Carpentry and various other trades.

At the September information session you will also hear about the ATC 'Peak Fitness Trainer' course, which will be held between November 2019 and February 2020, prior to university commencement.

# Information session dates:

Thursday 14th November 2019 Wednesday 29th January 2020 9.30am - 12.30pm (Careers Advisors and parents are welcome)

Venue:

30-32 Pomeroy St (Cnr Underwood Rd) Homebush

- No ATAR required
- Paid employment
- Nationally recognised qualifications
- Paid to study (earn while you learn)
- ✓ Hands on experience

You must register prior to attending. All attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their resume. To register, complete the online registration form  $\rightarrow$  <u>FILL IN USING GOOGLE FORMS HERE</u> or call our office (02) 9704 1550 prior to the date. For all other enquiries - email: recruitment@austrg.com.au



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#### Change of contact details

In various instances

families move, mobile numbers change and email addresses change. It is imperative that whilst at school we can contact you if required.

If any of your contact information has changed simply fill in your students name on this form and then you ONLY fill in what has changed and return it to the front office.

KINGSGI	ROVE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL
Promotiu	ng Excellence in a Caring Environment
Notific	ation of Change of Address
Complete and return form to the	e front office with proof of address.
	otice, rental papers, electricity, and water or phone bill, not sufficient, must be accompanied with above suitable
Date:	
SURNAME:	GIVEN NAME:
OLD ADDRESS:	",Postcode:
NEW ADDRESS:	Postcode:
MAILING ADDRESS:	
HOME PHONE NO:	
MOTHER'S MOBILE NO:	MOTHER'S WORK NO:
FATHER'S MOBILE NO:	



- 5. Orthodontist Sydney Wide
- 7. Jackie's Floral Gallery
- 11. Roselands Shopping Centre
- 13. Telstra Store Campsie
- 15. Heartbreak Ridge Paintball
- 17. Linda Burney MP Member for Barton

- 6.Carrier Electrical Services
- 8.The Woods Café and Deli
- 12. Potentia Tutoring Centre
- 14. German Butchery Deli & Café
- 16. Blue cross Pharmacy
- 18. Blue Cross Medical Centre