



PENSHURST GIRLS CAMPUS

NEWSLETTER

Term 4
10 December 2014

Principal's Report



It has been a pleasure joining this learning community and an absolute privilege to lead it. In my two terms as Principal I see a world of opportunity that our girls have access to and I'm glad to say the majority of students take full advantage of that.

This term has been one marked by special events and celebrations. It has been a very busy term as we celebrate a year of wonderful achievement here at GRC Penshurst Girls Campus.

On Tuesday 9 December our annual Presentation Evening was held, where we celebrated the confidence our girls have shown as students and as learners.

Our guest speaker was former Penshurst Girls student, Deborah Cheetham. Earlier this year Ms Cheetham received an Order of Australia for distinguished service as an opera singer, composer and artistic director, to the development of Indigenous artists, and to innovation in performance. Ms Cheetham took her first steps as a performer on the stage in our school hall. She fondly spoke

of her time at Penshurst, and the supportive and nurturing environment that helped shape her into the woman she is today. She spoke to our current students about looking within and finding the 'best version of themselves'. Our school community was privileged to welcome her back and celebrate her achievements and her success.

On Tuesday 25 November our SRC and a small group of performers attended the White Ribbon Day assembly at GRC Oatley Senior Campus. This event was a large and significant one, and culminated in the swearing of an oath to end violence against women and girls. The entire male school community at Oatley committed themselves to this pledge and signed the White Ribbon as evidence of their commitment. White Ribbon Day Ambassador Mario Fenech joined the assembly and spoke passionately and with commitment about his respect for women and his work to end violence against women.

Our students certainly gained much insight, and found new respect, as they listened to the reflections of many of the senior students and their commitment to live a life where respect for women is paramount.

Late in Term 4 we welcomed our incoming 2015 Year 7 students to our Orientation Day. Students and parents were taken on a tour of our grounds, and were able to observe dance and drama rehearsals, a musical recital in the Principal's garden, and a surprise petting zoo in our agriculture plot. Although a very hot day, our new students and their families left feeling welcomed and excited by the prospect of their first day of High School next year.

Year 10 finalised their Year 10 Record of School Achievement (RoSA) results this term, as well as undertook College examinations. Compared to state-wide averages, our results in the school awarded grades for the RoSA were excellent. Receiving a Grade A or B places a student's performance in the High to Excellent range. The following Grade A's and B's were awarded:



Ms Deborah Cheetham outside the Principal's office - Congratulations to Geneviev M., DUX of Year 10 2014 - Mario Fenech, College Principals and school staff



- In English 71% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Mathematics 52% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Science, 52% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Australian Geography, 43% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Australian History, 34% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Information, Software and Technology, 60% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Visual Arts, 84% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Industrial Technology (Multimedia), 66% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Commerce 64% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Photography, 52% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.
- In Chinese, a phenomenal 92% of the year achieved a Grade A or B.

Year 10 is to be congratulated. They must use their Year 10 results as motivation and inspiration for the challenges ahead of them. All years are in the process of receiving their Yearly Reports. The information contained within should be used to identify strengths, and target weaknesses. Students should use this information as a blueprint for action in 2015.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr Mark Treacy, who has been a wonderful Deputy Principal at our school. Mr Treacy will be continuing his role as Deputy Principal at Georges River College next year, but he will be moving to Oatley Senior Campus. Mr Treacy has been with us for 7 years, initially as Head Teacher TAS and then as Deputy Principal for the past 5 years. I would like to

officially thank him for his work. He has demonstrated his commitment to our school community in many ways, including relieving as Principal for a substantial length of time. His contribution to the fabric of our school is very real and he will be sorely missed, but we wish him well in this new chapter in his career, and we can take comfort in the fact that he is still part of our larger College family, and that he will be actively working to ensure that our current Year 10 girls transition to Oatley under his expert care and guidance.

We will also be farewelling another important member of our staff this year. Mrs Pankhurst will also be moving to GRC Oatley Senior Campus. Mrs Pankhurst has been teaching here for the best part of 9 years and in that time has distinguished herself as an excellent classroom practitioner. Mrs Pankhurst has also contributed to the greater life of the school as our Head Teacher Engagement for the last 2 years. Mrs Pankhurst is a teacher with great compassion and a great commitment to public education. We wish her well.

I extend my warmest best wishes to our students and their families over the festive season. Have a safe and happy holiday.

Ms Noeline Ross
Principal

From the English Faculty

Macbeth Performance

This semester, Year 10 students have been exploring an Area of Study on Power and thoroughly studying Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' as the core text. To facilitate their comprehension of the play, they were invited to watch a live performance of 'Macbeth' in the performance space on Monday, 13 October. The play was performed by a group of young Australian actors from 'Bard on the Ridge'. They cleverly managed to pack the whole play into an hour performance to make it accessible to our students. During their performance, they focused on the highlights of the play and the major parts of the plot, with each actor portraying multiple characters.





Education Perfect English Championship 2014

Between 28 July - 7 August, students were tested on their English skills, including grammar, reading comprehension and knowledge of literacy texts. They gained points by answering questions, and as they reached certain thresholds, they earned Credit (500+ points), Bronze (1,000 + points), Silver (2,000 + points) and Gold (3,000 + points) awards.

Competitors from more than 800 schools answered over 4 million questions in just 10 days. Three Year 8 students have participated in this competition and their results were Outstanding: Jasmin H. answered 593 questions. She has been placed in the top 20% of 20,000 competitors and she earned a Credit Award.

Bao Tran Tracy K. answered 794 questions. She has been placed in the top 20% of 20,000 competitors and she earned a Credit Award.

Pei Ming J. answered 4,685 questions. She has been placed in the top 2% of 20,000 competitors and she earned a GOLD Award.

Congratulations girls on your outstanding results. You are a credit to GRC Penshurst Girls Campus.

*Mrs Elham Gabra
Relieving Head Teacher English*

Attention to Parents

If you are waiting to pick your daughters up after school our neighbours in St Georges Road have requested that you do not park in or obstruct their driveways.

Whilst I appreciate that parents are using side streets to wait for their children, and not parking in prohibited school zones, we need to be mindful of the road rules and of impinging upon the reasonable rights of others.

Our neighbours are an important part of our community and great supporters of our school. Please help us maintain this good relationship.

Ms Ross

Sydney Tower Restaurant

Year 10 Food Technology students experienced a day of fine dining when they attended lunch at The Sydney Tower Restaurant recently. The day began with an informative talk about how the restaurant is managed. The students were then taken underground to the food storage



preparation areas where they observed the manner in which food is stored and numerous busy chefs going about their daily responsibilities. The most enjoyable part of the day was definitely the buffet where the girls enjoyed an enormous variety of food ranging from crocodile to emu to spring rolls. The dessert selection was just as tempting and the view from the enormous glass windows was certainly breathtaking. This is definitely a lovely place for a special occasion.

*Mrs Eva Zeritis
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*

Upcoming Dates

Term Dates 2014

Term 4: 07/10 - 17/12

Term Dates 2015

Term 1: 29/01 - 02/04

Term 2: 21/04 - 26/06

Term 3: 14/07 - 18/09

Term 4: 06/10 - 16/12

Term 4 2014

12/12 Year 10 Graduation

15-16/12 Leadership Camp

17/12 Last day of Term for all students

Term 1 2015

28/01 Year 7, 2015 students start school

29/01 All Year 8, 9 and 10, 2015 students return

19/02 School Photos

24/02 Swimming Carnival

27/02 Second-hand Uniform Shop

02/03 Open Night

04-06/03 Year 7 Camp

17/03 P&C Meeting (AGM)

23/03 School Cross Country Carnival



Summer Grade Sport Finals

We played in four finals on 26 November for the Grade Finals. All three Ozttag teams that played in the finals were victorious:

15Bs defeated Peakhurst 8-2

14As defeated Peakhurst 7-3

14Bs defeated Blakehurst in a very close game 4-3

Our 15's Softball team displayed consistent improvement throughout the season to make the final but were defeated by Kingsgrove 11-4.

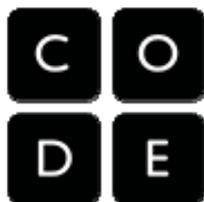
Overall our grade players should be commended on the manner in which they represent our school each week. Their efforts have been excellent.

*Mrs Robyn Mullane
Sport Coordinator*

Technology Hour of Code

8-14 December 2014

Some Year 7 and 8 Technology classes and Year 9 and 10 Information and Software Technology classes will be participating in the world wide event, The Hour of Code.



This event is designed to bring awareness of Information Technology occupation opportunities especially for women. Programming develops a student's logic and problem solving skills which are valuable skills for the 21st century learner.

Students will be undertaking online tutorials in a variety of programming languages including Scratch, Python, Java Script, Light Bot, Code Combat and Bitsbox. Students work at their own pace through each tutorial and the tutorials get more challenging as they progress.

Some Year 7 students in their Computing Skills Technology lesson have been using Scratch and this event will reinforce their learning.

The event is open to everyone and you can register online at <http://code.org>

*Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*

Congratulations Curie

The Winningest House of 2014

On Friday 21 November we held our annual Winningest House Celebration. At the end of every year we recognise the sports house that has won the most carnivals. This year Curie took out the prize. To celebrate we held a BBQ at lunch. A very big thank you goes to the Year 10 Sports Captains and Vice Captains and the Year 10 PASS girls who helped set up and run the celebration. The hall looked fabulous in Yellow and everyone cooled down with an ice block and a movie during period five. Congratulations to the Curie House Captain Cleopatra T. and the Vice-Captain Renee K. Next year this could be you!

*Ms Caroline Joy
Relieving PD/H/PE Coordinator*

Languages Matters

Viaggia in Italia

Year 10 students, Catherine T., Lauren Z., Rachel B. and Jessica P., spent four weeks on a fabulous adventure in Italy. They travelled with students and teachers from Beverly Hills Girls High School and other local high schools. They experienced life in the Tuscan town of Montepulciano and visited other cities such as Rome, Venice and Florence. What an amazing opportunity. Please enjoy Catherine's recount of her memorable trip.

"To travel is to live." Hans Christian Anderson

*Mrs Janelle Byrne
Languages Coordinator*

On Tuesday 16 September, we woke up at around 4:30am to get ready to go to the airport for a 6:00am check-in. We went through security and we boarded the plane at 7:45am. At 8:10am, Korean Air Flight 122 took off in the air, bound



for Incheon International Airport in South Korea. After a ten hour flight, we finally landed, and we had to go through security and out the door for our overnight stay in Korea.

We spent the next morning exploring parts of Incheon, a smaller city than Seoul. At 11:00am (Korean time), we headed back to the airport for our 2:00pm outbound flight for Milan Airport. This trip was eleven hours and after a two hour stopover in Milan, we were finally headed for Rome. That flight only took an hour, but that was the flight that everyone fell asleep on. By that stage, we had been awake for around 30 hours, without factoring in the time differences from Korean time to Italy time. We landed at 10:15pm, Italy time.

By the time we got to the hotel, we were all so tired, but our teachers insisted that we have dinner. So we all trudged around the corner to the restaurant in another hotel to eat. It was midnight before we got back to the hotel room to sleep. We stayed next to the Porta Maggiore, which means 'Major Door'. It was the major doorway into Ancient Rome, with the massive brick and concrete walls still standing, separating the heart of the Roman Empire from the newly built areas of the city.

The next day, we explored all the wonders that Ancient Rome has to offer. We visited the Colosseum and the Roman Forum, marvelling at the brilliance of the Ancient Roman people and their brilliant technology. Did you know that the Romans used to flood the Colosseum in order to hold naval battles for entertainment? They didn't just have the gladiators fighting on land with the lions! We also saw the Spanish Steps and explored that area of Rome for a little while as well.

On day two in Italy, we went to the Vatican City, which was amazing. We walked through the wondrous museums, seeing all the beautiful ancient craft works, the tapestries and, of course, the famous Sistine Chapel. St Peter's Basilica was also astounding. We went to the Piazza Navona next and then to the Parthenon. Everything was absolutely beautiful.

Day three in Italy we got on the bus and headed for a small town in Tuscany called Montepulciano. Here, we stayed for two weeks with a host family, going to school with our host sisters and exploring the cute but old town. The view of the countryside of Italy was just amazing.

After two weeks, we were off again, up to Venice, where we had the most amazing time. We were left on our own for quite a while to explore. We saw the Rialto Bridge, San Marco Square and many other beautiful places. On our second day in Venice, our teacher took us to the island of Murano and Burano. Murano is famous for magnificent glass-making and we went to a glass factory and watched a demonstration of how the makers manipulate 1200°C hot glass, straight out of the massive ovens into something beautiful like a horse. Burano, was famous for lace, and they had beautiful things all around. But, to be honest, I think that when everyone saw the fish and chips shop, we didn't look much further. After three weeks, we were so hungry for something other than Italian food at that point.

After Venice, our last stop was to Florence, home of the Statue of David, the Uffizi Gallery and the Medici palaces. We had so much fun exploring Florence and our hotel was

right in the middle of it all so it only took about ten minutes to reach all the main attractions in either direction. The Ponte Vecchio (the only bridge in Florence that wasn't bombed in World War II) held all the beautiful jewellery shops and the shopping in Florence was amazing.

After two days in Florence, we were finally making our way back to Rome for our trip home. We all had the most amazing time and we all hope that one day we get to go back again.

*Catherine T.
Year 10 student*

Time is Ticking Away



As the year draws to a close some of the Year 7 clocks created in the Wood Unit of Technology have been completed while the others will be finished next week. Some of the completed clocks are shown. They are assessed on their creativity, cutting skills and finishing skills such as sanding and painting.

*Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*

My Restaurant Rules

Year 8 have been cooking a variety of multicultural dishes including Burritos, San Choy Bow, Penne Pasta, Damper and Greek Kebabs. In their computer lessons they have been creating a cookbook based on a theme of their choice. Some of these cookbooks include Tomatoes, Chocolate, Homemade, Indian and Greek cooking and Lebanese cooking. See photos on the next page!

*Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*



Silver Award

- Year 7: Samira H.
- Year 8: Erica J., Samraggi P. and Samriddhi P.
- Year 9: Angel Y.
- Year 10: Victoria A., Christina A., Avrocina A., Lillian B., Grace C., Tracey C., Sanja C., Yolliana E., Maria E., Myrto G., Lauren H., Alisa H., Maddison H., Renee K., Joey M., Sara M., Alysha R., Caitlin Ebony S., Anisya S., Fatima Z. and Lauren Z.

Gold Award

- Year 9: Angel Y.
- Year 10: Saja A., Zoe C., Kahlei D., Louise F., Lara H., Manshi Angel L., Catherine L., Rasia L., Geneviev M., Jessica P., Tiarnna R., Nuntawon S. and Kerrie T.

Sew it Goes On!

As the Textile units come to a close in Year 8 Technology, students are completing the cushion they have creatively designed, developed the patterns and constructed. Two examples are shown. Year 10 Textiles Technology have been constructing a variety of items as their year comes to a close. Some students have been making signature bears, other creative aprons or shirts. While Year 9 students have been making an item of choice including summer dresses, wall hangings or children's touch and feel books.

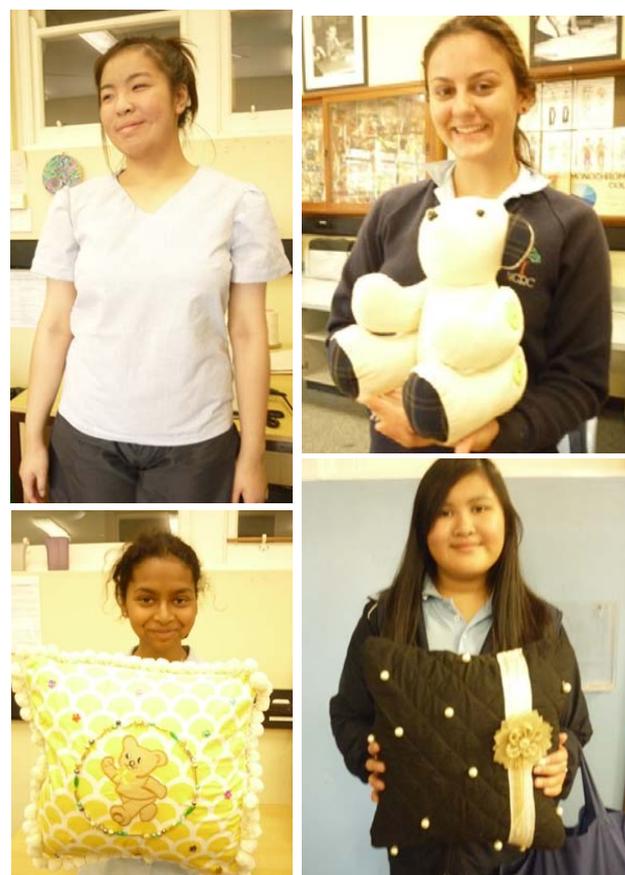
*Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*

Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have received awards:

Bronze Award

- Year 7: Kayla A., Cloe B., Ka Yi Carey C., Michelle D., Chantelle E., Elena F., Blanca F., Annie G., Ida H., Ella-Rose L., Samantha M., Aisha N., Jia Xin Jenny P., Mandi S., Hannah T., Jasmine T., Erin-Rose W. and Zeinab W.
- Year 8: Kate B., Rozz G., Erica J., Bao Tran Tracy K., Li Jia Jennifer L., Melanie N., Samraggi P., Samriddhi P., Shahnila S. and Emily Y.
- Year 9: Kayla D. and Angel Y.
- Year 10: Georgia B., Zeinab E., Lydia S., Caitlin S. and Sian W.



Record of School Achievement

The NSW Record of Achievement:

- is a record of achievement for students who leave school prior to receiving their HSC
- reports results of moderated, school based assessment, not external tests
- will be available when a student leaves school any time after they complete Year 10
- be cumulative and recognise a student's achievements until the point they leave school
- show a result for all courses completed in Year 10 and Year 11
- be able to be reliably compared between students across NSW
- give students the option to take online literacy and numeracy tests
- be comprehensive and offer the ability to record a student's extracurricular achievements.



Congratulations

to

Reyann M.

Year 6, Hurstville Public School
student

who has received the

2014 GRC Citizenship Award.

We congratulate Reyann and welcome her to Year 7 here at GRC Penshurst Girls Campus in 2015.



SPECIAL PROMOTION FOR

GEORGES RIVER COLLEGE CAMPUSES

SPECIAL SALES

DAYS x3

AT LOWES – HURSTVILLE & ROSELANDS

Monday 15th – Tuesday 16th – Wednesday 17th December
2014

RECEIVE 15% DISCOUNT

Off the regular price on all uniform items for
GRC – Penshurst – Hurstville – Peakhurst - Oatley

PLUS

BONUS EZY-WAY 5% DISCOUNT

additional for Lowes Ezy-Way customers

OR 5% REWARDS

Lowes Rewards Card holders receive in-store Gift Vouchers
to the value of 5% of their purchase

PLUS

Lowes will pay your school annual **5% rebate** on every
uniform purchased in-store.



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

**Your school uniform
is now available
online at**

www.lowes.com.au

**FREE SHIPPING
FOR ORDERS OVER \$100**

Register online and receive a
**DISCOUNT ON YOUR
FIRST ORDER**

P & C Chat Time



Hello all

Well our school year for 2014 is just about over; it has been a great year. We have welcomed our new Principal Ms Noeline Ross and are about to say goodbye to our Year 10 girls as they move onto the Oatley Campus and other Senior Schools. On behalf of the P&C I would like to wish all our Year 10 girls the very best for their futures, may all your dreams come true.

I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 17 March 2015, at 7.00pm in the Staff Common Room. There will be a short AGM followed by our usual P&C Meeting. We look forward to seeing some new faces next year.

If anyone would like to donate their old school uniforms it would be greatly appreciated, so we can keep our uniform shop stocked.

If you would like to be added to the P&C's mailing list to be kept up to date with the P&C minutes, please contact me.

Mrs Helen James - P&C President

Mobile: 0410 296 092

Email: helenjames6@optusnet.com.au

Chinese Translation

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

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Library Homework Centre

When??? On Mondays and Tuesdays in the Library



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.

Second-hand Uniform Shop

Friday 27 February 2015
from 7.45am to 8.20am

P & C Meeting

Tuesday 17 March 2015
7.00pm

Staff Common Room

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