



PENSHURST GIRLS CAMPUS

NEWSLETTER

Term 1
14 March 2014

Principal's Report



School events

The school year has started with a hectic schedule of events for all members of the Georges River College Penshurst Girls community.

- Year 10 Information Evening
- Tutor Night
- Year 7 Welcome Evening
- Swimming Carnival
- PBL Launch
- Open Night
- Year 7 Camp
- Chikushi Jyogakuen school visit

All of these events were very successful with excellent attendance and engagement from parents, students and teachers. The feedback from our new parent body at the Year 7 Welcome Evening and future parents exploring Georges River College Penshurst Girls Campus at our Open Night was outstanding. Parents commented on how positively their daughters are settling into the demands of high school and what mature young women the tour guides were on Open Night. I sincerely thank everyone involved in all of these important events this year.

Device Day

On Monday 10 March, Year 9 students were able to bring a mobile learning device to school. This day was about testing the various laptops, iPads and tablets, the girls are able to bring to school to enhance their learning. We had many devices and numerous questions and technical issues that Mrs Zhou our Technical Support Officer helped solve for the girls. Our main issue was that the students' devices were not able to connect to the Department's wireless

network. Mrs Zhou is working on possible solutions and will give feedback to the girls in the next few weeks. If you have any questions please call the school and speak to Mrs Zhou.

Polynesian and Indigenous Cultural Festival

Many of our Polynesian and Indigenous girls have taken the opportunity to be part of this exciting Georges River College program. The girls will be performing in July 2014 and have started practising their performance pieces during recess, lunch and after school. Please contact the school for more information about this cultural festival.

*Mr Mark Treacy
Acting Principal*

Year 7 Welcome Evening

At the Year 7 Welcome Evening last month, Year 10 Food Technology students once again were able to showcase their exceptional food preparation skills and service. The students prepared a variety of foods to welcome Year 7 parents and students to our school. The guests thoroughly enjoyed the food and the catering team were most professional and efficient in their roles throughout the evening. The culture of hospitality and service in our school has once again been on show to our community.

*Mrs Eva Zeritis
Hospitality Coordinator*



Yr 9 Textiles Technology

Has it in the bag!

As an introduction to Textiles and a refresher on using the sewing machine, Year 9 Textiles Technology used a commercial pattern to construct a fully lined shoulder bag and they completed this in just 4 lessons. The students next project is to construct a skirt of their choice and investigate how a fashion designer influences what we wear.

*Mrs Linda Harrison
Technology and Applied Studies Faculty*



Clean Up Australia

On Friday 28 February the SRC ran a Clean Up Australia Day at our school. It was a great success with some teachers and students staying back after school to help clean up the school grounds. It is amazing how many small and large pieces of rubbish manage to get stuck in our gardens bordering our school. I would like to congratulate all involved and hope you enjoy our photos.

*Mrs Kathy Donnelly
Student Representative Council Coordinator*



Music Tutorial Night

On Tuesday 11 February the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty held a special Music Tutorial Selection Night as a means of promoting the school's tutorial program and the tutors who run the music workshops. It was well supported with at least 60 people in attendance.

As a result, the popularity of the tutorials has increased and we now offer workshops in:

- Keyboards
- Flute
- Saxophone
- Clarinet
- Violin
- Drums
- Vocals

Our special thanks go to our Tutors who performed so beautifully on the night.

Thanks to

DRUM TUTOR - Mr Merv Dick

SAXOPHONE and CLARINET TUTOR - Mr Adrian Tuero

FLUTE TUTOR - Miss Grace Yuen

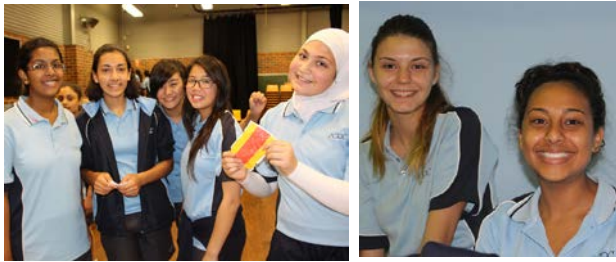
VOCAL TUTOR - Mrs Laura Munro

GUITAR TUTOR - Mr Rob Galea

VIOLIN TUTOR - Mr Henry Avila (who gave his apologies for not being able to attend)

KEYBOARDS TUTOR - Miss Claudia Butters (a recent addition to the list of tutors).

*Mr Garry Belinfante
Creative and Performing Arts Head Teacher*



The GRC Way is launched!

How exciting! The GRC Way has been officially launched at each of the Georges River College campuses over the past few weeks. At Penshurst Girls Campus, we celebrated with fun activities, a guest staff singer, cake and more! The focus of the day was on our three core values of Respect, Responsibility and Aiming for Excellence, which underpin all that we do at school and in the community.

A team of staff representatives from every faculty together with the Year 9 and Year 10 SRC representatives planned for the launch in after-school meetings for over a term. Their creative ideas and commitment to a productive day ensured the 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' (PBL) system that The GRC Way is built on, was implemented with success, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of them for their amazing efforts.

Although the weather was a little damp, students rotated smoothly around the four sessions that the staff facilitated: Zumba, Trivia, Jigsaw and The Amazing Race. The day began with an assembly at which two spectacular videos were showcased: one that each GRC campus played

to open the day and a second made here on site, featuring our PBL Superhero, who introduced the expected behaviours in each setting of our campus with some great actors through an entertaining, dramatic, silent-movie style video. The final assembly featured a Guest Staff Singer and her backing vocalists who brought the house down as they performed their rendition of Aretha Franklin's R-E-S-P-E-C-T! This was followed by the cutting of the cake which the student then had a piece of as they left that afternoon.

Not a one-off event! Over the past 18 months, staff and students from across the college have been meeting regularly to create an aligned system of behavioural and academic expectations, which we have highlighted in recent newsletters. To clarify The GRC Way, each campus has created an Expectations Matrix of how to behave in various settings of the campus and community, a set of Classroom Rules: Penshurst has created The 4 Ps - Polite - Prepared - Punctual - Participate and we have all agreed on a Georges River College PBL logo designed by students of GRC Oatley Campus (see left).

We will unpack each area of the Expectations Matrix over the year and continue to inform you through updates in the Newsletter and website. If you ask to check your daughter's diary, you will find a copy of The GRC Way on pages 3 and 4. We look forward to hearing your comments and questions at the next P&C meeting.

*Mrs Karen Burke
Deputy Principal and GRC PBL Coordinator*

Upcoming Dates

Term Dates 2014

Term 1:	30/01 - 11/04
Term 2:	29/04 - 27/06
Term 3:	15/07 - 19/09
Term 4:	07/10 - 17/12

Term 1 2014

18/03	P&C Meeting
19/03	Sydney East Regional Swimming Carnival
21/03	Year 10 Mock Interviews
28/03	SRC Induction Assembly
01/04	School Cross Country Carnival
7-8/04	CHS State Swimming Carnival
10/04	Volunteer Day
11/04	ANZAC Day Assembly
11/04	Last day of Term 1

Term 2 2014

28/04	Staff return - Development Day
29/04	All students return to school
07/05	Kojimachi Visit
12-16/05	Year 10 Elective Assessment Period
13-16/05	Year 7 and Year 9 NAPLAN
19-23/05	Year 10 Core Subjects Assessment Period
20/05	St George Zone Cross Country Carnival

Study Tips

Learning to Learn

Some very important basic rules:

1. Before class:

- Do your homework! Read critically; form *your own* opinions.
- Review your notes from the previous lesson and make topic summaries.
- Communicate immediately with teachers about any study problems.
- Focus on the task at hand before class: Take a moment to gather your thoughts and mentally prepare yourself for the lesson.
- Write any objectives or goals that come to mind. For example:
 - Preparing for an up-coming test.
 - Understanding a particular concept.
 - Gaining a good foundation on a topic.
 - Understanding or reviewing the readings.

2. In Class:

- Arrive on time for class. Teachers do not take lateness lightly.
- *If possible*, sit where you will be able to focus on the subject matter; consider the best location for:
 - Listening.
 - Asking questions.
 - Seeing visual materials.
 - Discussing - not only with the teacher but also your classmates.
- Avoid distractions that may interfere with your concentration (daydreaming, looking around the room, talking to a friend, passing notes).
- Evaluate as you listen:
 - Decide what is important and should be placed in your notes and what can be left out.
 - Listen long enough to be sure you understand what was said before writing.

- Ask clarifying questions, if you don't understand something (but wait for "breaks" in the teacher's discussion).

- Review your class objective(s) throughout the class.

- Did your objective(s) agree with the teacher's introductory remarks?

- Has the class digressed from stated objectives, yours or the teacher's?

3. After the Class:

- Write a "to do" list including:

- Assignments.

- Reviewing difficult concepts.

- Joining study groups.

- Making appointments with a study pal, teacher, or instructor.

One resource often overlooked, is a classmate who seems to have a good understanding of the material. If it seems appropriate, seek the individual out for help.

A quiz relating to this study skill, is available on the school Moodle → Student Hotspot → Study Skills → Module 1 Learning to Learn

Material adapted from: Gail M. Zimmerman, Assistant Dean of First-Year Students and Academic Counselor, Dartmouth College and Bob Nelson, et al, Learning Resource Centres, Rutgers University.

*Mrs Sally Pankhurst
Head Teacher Engagement*

GRC Penhurst Girls Campus

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PENSHURST NSW 2222

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<http://www.penhurstg-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>



2014 HARMONY DAY COMPETITIONS

[About Us](#) | [Community Groups](#) | [Home](#) | [Past Projects](#) | [Contact Us](#)

2014 HARMONY DAY POSTER COMPETITION

The Harmony Day Poster Competition is an annual initiative open to all primary and secondary students across NSW and ACT. Students are encouraged to visually articulate their interpretation of the 2013 theme –

"Together We Can"

Entries should reflect one or more of the following principles:

- Our society is made up of different people from different backgrounds.
- While we are unique, we all share the goal of wanting to live together in harmony, peace and understanding. We must respect others religion, gender and race.
- We must not accept hate, violence or unfair treatment of any person or group.
- We must strive to give all Australians equal opportunities and assist those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We are proud to be Australian.

DESIGN
All entries MUST be A3 poster size and any medium is acceptable

PRIZES
Prizes will be awarded to those students whose posters best illustrate an innovative approach to the "Together We Can" theme.
All entrants receive a Certificate of Participation.

JUDGING
A panel of qualified respected art critics and educational personnel will judge the entries.
Entries close on 11th April 2014, with winners announced in June 2014.
Judges decision is final.

The Harmony Day Poster Competition is a project of The Moving Forward Together Association Inc. The competition is an integral part of Harmony Day (21 March 2013), an Australian Government initiative and is supported by:
NSW Department of Education and Training; The Catholic Education Commission of NSW; The Association of Independent Schools of NSW; Department of Immigration and Citizenship
The Ethnic Communities' Council of NSW

The Competition is proudly sponsored by:
The Alfred Dreyfus Anti-Defamation Unit of Ethical Ethics; NSW Community Relations Commission; Colin Etkeman and family; Solvix Pty Ltd; Gill Taylor

PRIZES

JUNIOR Category (Kindergarten to Year 6) STATE Winner - \$500 Regional Winner - \$150 State Winner's School - \$250
SENIOR Category (Year 7 to Year 12) STATE Winner - \$500 Regional Winner - \$150 State Winner's School - \$250

ENTRY FORMS

Entry forms and completed posters are required to be mailed to our competition office by 11th April 2014.

[Entry forms available HERE](#)
Please read the instructions carefully.

All posters and entry forms and correspondence to be sent to:

HARMONY DAY POSTER COMPETITION
PO Box 443
Kings Cross NSW 1340



P & C Chat Time

Hello all

Firstly I would like to say thank you to all the Year 7 parents and carers who joined us for the Year 7 Welcome Night. It was a fantastic night and a great way to meet your daughters' teachers and other parents. A special thank you to Mr Mark Treacy, Mr Mark Harrison, Mrs Karen Burke and of course all the teachers who attended.

We also had a successful Open Day just last week, thanks to all the Year 8 girls who made wonderful tour guides and to all our girls who stayed back to help out in their respective classes. We had some very positive feedback from parents who said you were very informative and set a fine example for our school.

The next P&C Meeting will be held 18 March 2014 in the Staff Common Room at 7.00pm - there will be a short AGM meeting then our normal meeting will proceed from there. Our guest speaker will be Mr Mark Treacy, Acting Principal who will be discussing the Year 7 Assessment Booklet for our new Year 7 parents, but of course all parents should come along as the Assessment Booklet procedure applies to all school years 7 to 10.

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

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.



The Family & Carer Mental Health Program Team within South Eastern Sydney Local Health District Presents:

"Staying Connected When Emotions Run High"

A **FREE WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES AND CARERS**

This workshop will be extremely relevant if you support someone who:

- Has relationship difficulties
- Demonstrates changing emotions & strong overwhelming feelings
- Displays impulsive & destructive behaviour e.g. cutting
- Has a diagnosis of Personality Disorder

Date & Time:

Tuesday 18th March 2014
9am – 3.30pm

Venue:

South Eastern Sydney
Medicare Local
15 Kensington St
Kogarah

Please note: Morning tea and lunch will be provided

RSVP: toni.garretty@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

Or phone 4220 7919. (If phone attended please leave detailed message with name, contact details and date and venue of workshop you wish to attend)

HARLOW SCHOOL OF DANCE

35 TREACY STREET, HURSTVILLE

CALLING ALL TEENS!

We need you for our fun dance classes.

We have classes in:

Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Acrobatics
Hip Hop, Breakdance, Contemporary,
Bollywood, Stretch & Strength, Acting &
Singing

All Welcome – even the boys!

Ages 12 and Up

Check out our page @

www.danceschool.net.au

Ph: 9579 5399

Email: jump_st@bigpond.net.au

We have classes for the whole family!

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.

St George Local Area Command POLICE OPEN DAY

AND INFORMATION DAY

Date: Saturday 5th April, 2014
Time: 10.00am until 2.00pm
Place: Riverwood Police Station
Cnr Shenstone and Belmore Streets,
Riverwood

FREE ENTRY

More information available on our Facebook Page.



Units attending:

- Youth Command • Dog Unit
- Marine Area Command • Eyewatch
- Constable Charlie • Proactive Crime Team
- Highway Patrol • Public Transport Command
- Customer Service Program • Mounted Police
- Forensic Services Group • Crime Prevention Officer

There will also be face painting, jumping castle, food vendors, show bags and live entertainment.



Photo Gallery

