

## FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

# THE BRIDGE

Term 3, Week 10 Friday 22 Sept

### From the Principal

It has been another very busy, but productive term at Fairfield High School.

#### LMBR "Go Live"

At the beginning of this term, the school went live with LMBR the school's new finance and student learning management program. Congratulations to Ms Spring our School Administrative Manager and all the school administrative staff for all their hard work in making the transition a success. It is still early days and I ask for the school community's patience as our office and staff become proficient at using the new system.

### **Multicultural Day**

On Tuesday 29 August 2017, we celebrated Multicultural Day. The day aims to celebrate our cultural diversity with a program of events including an Aboriginal smoking ceremony, an international flag parade, dancing, singing, a talent quest, international games and a large number of food stalls. The day was organised by Ms Isakov and a team of helpers and I thank them on behalf of the school community on a job very well done. It was lovely to see our students, their families and members of the community celebrate and acknowledge the richness we have

in our school.



## Year 12 HSC Major Works and Examinations

This term a number of our HSC students have had major works due and HSC examinations in Drama, Design and Technology, Industrial Technology, Music and Visual Arts. All the students have been a credit to the school. Our HSC students will be graduating at the end of this term and I wish them all the best for the HSC examinations and their life beyond Fairfield High School. We will miss them but it is now time for them to shine in the world and use all the skills they have learnt at school.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Oct 16 HSC begins

Year 8 Health and Exercise Program begins

Nov 27 - Dec 1 Year 10 Work Experience

**Dec 5**Year 6 into 7
Orientation Day

**Dec 7**Presentation Day

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#### **SASS Recognition Week**

SASS recognition week was celebrated between September 4 – 8. It is a week to recognise and appreciate all the great work performed by our school administrative staff both in the front office, print room, faculties, SLSO's and our General Assistants. They all do a fantastic job to keep the school running efficiently and I thank them all for the great and valuable job they do.

#### **Road Safety**

Can I ask all parents and guardians to have a conversation with their children about being safe when walking to and from school. Students must obey the road rules especially traffic lights and cross in the appropriate place at the appropriate time. The school is located on a very busy main road and I would therefore encourage all students to cross using the footbridge located right outside the school gate. Can parents also be very careful when dropping off or picking up their children. Students riding their bike to and from school must have a helmet and use it. If we follow the road rules then all our students will be safe.

#### Year 6 Welcome Dinner

This term we had our annual Year 6 Welcome Dinner attended by some 180 guests. A big thankyou to Ms Anderson and Ms Khan for organising the event. The feedback has been very positive.

#### **Business Manager**

It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Ms Clair Castle the school's new Business Manager. Clair brings with her a wealth of experience.

#### **New School Plan**

As a school, we are approaching the end of our school planning cycle. Throughout this term and into Term 4 the school will be undertaking evaluations of our existing programs and developing our new school plan for 2018-2020. I would encourage parents and guardians to be part of our school consultation process as we move our school forward and continue to improve the educational and social outcomes of our students.

Finally, I would like to wish all our students and families a safe and restful term break.

## From the Deputy Principal

I am very pleased to be writing my first Deputy Principal report for Fairfield High School's Bridge newsletter. Each edition of the newsletter will have one of the Deputy Principals write this report.

I would like to publicly than Mrs Isakov, Head Teacher Transition, for undertaking my role in the first half of this term, while I was on leave. She managed a number of complex issues very efficiently and worked with Year 8 and Year 11 students with enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication.

#### **Multicultural Day**

Term 3 has seen the bi-annual Multicultural Day be held and it was a resounding success. Mrs Isakov led a team of hard working staff to ensure the day was full of interesting activities, lots of culturally diverse food and student performances. Ms Lykourezos and Mr Honyak deserve special mention for their dedication to the students in Dance, Drama and Music, as does Ms Molina and Ms Hayes for their energetic approach to coordinating the food stalls. Mr O'Connell and Ms Edwards did an amazing job overseeing the World Cup Soccer event. There were MANY staff who contributed to the day to ensure it was a success and, on behalf of the school community, I thank everyone for working cooperatively and collaboratively to provide a fun and valuable experience for our students. Look out elsewhere in this newsletter for more information about the success of Multicultural Day.

#### Year 11 ending - Year 12 starting in Term 4

Year 11 students are coming to the end of their Preliminary Course and it is about to be exam time. This is an opportune time to remind all students that completing all set course and class work, as well as submitting all assessment tasks, is a required part of successfully completing the Year 11 Preliminary courses. In Week 4 Term 4 Year 11 students may be able to "drop" a subject. This is dependent on an interview with myself, an application to drop a subject form completed and parent consent via a signature and interview. Students should only "drop" a subject in circumstances where it will benefit them to have more study time. In many cases it is better to undertake 6 courses for the HSC, so that students have a "buffer" in case something goes wrong in one subject.

#### Year 12 HSC Exams - upcoming

Year 12 students are going to be undertaking their HSC exams from early Term 4. This is a very important time for these students, so the rest of the school are asked to be considerate of Year 12 and how they are during their HSC exam weeks. Students are expected to attend the exams in full school uniform and should not take in items such as mobile phones to the exam room. All students are asked to be quiet and sensible around the auditorium, so as not to disturb the students inside who are sitting exams.

### Positive Behaviour and Discipline Policy

Staff have been contributing towards the development of a restructured and streamlined approach to acknowledging positive behaviour and helping student change their behaviour if they break school rules. Consultation continues and will include parents and students. Once the Policy is finalised, this will be published for the entire school community to see. This will be combined with the Positive Behaviour for Learning program that is being led by Ms Hayes. We will be using data to determine what explicit behaviour lessons need to be taught, as well as providing students with all the information they require to behave appropriately with in the school rules.

### Bullying, Harassment and CyberBullying

All students need to stand up to bullying and harassment. If you witness it happening to someone – either calmly and confidently ask the student who is doing the bad behaviour to stop OR walk away and quickly seek help from a member of staff. If you are online think of "giving bullies the BIRD" – this means if someone says or does something inappropriate online Block, Ignore, Report, Delete – and do all of these as soon as is possible. Some students think that being a "keyboard warrior" online is "out of school" so it is ok – well this is NOT the case. If you bully or harass someone out of school, then you are impacting on their state of mind about how they feel about continuing to come to school.

So think before you act AND be kind to others

#### **Student Welfare**

A strength of Fairfield High School is how well we support students who need extra help. This can be due to family issues, learning challenges, adjusting to being a new country, financial

problems, peer relations, sexuality, legal problems, criminality, religious issues and a range of other difficult situations. To address these we have a large team of staff to support students when required. Each Year group has a Year Adviser and an Assistant Year Adviser - so students should approach these staff for assistance whenever any is needed. Mrs Coonan is the Head Teacher Welfare and she is a compassionate and efficient leader of many of these programs that address student needs. There are other support staff in the school, such as the ATSI contact person, Girls Supervisor, Student Support Office, Learning and Support Teachers, School Learning Support Officers, School Counsellors and access to a wide variety of external support services. This term each Year Adviser conducted another informative and relevant assembly for their year group, helping students develop skills beyond the classroom. To further supplement these supports, the school also employs Head Teacher Student Engagement and Head Teacher Transition to further enhance the Wellbeing Programs across the school.

#### **Class Changes Term 4**

Some students in Years 8 and 9 will be having some class changes in the next couple of weeks in preparation for Term 4. This is due to the large number of Intensive English Centre students who are enrolling in the high school at the start of Term 4. These students will be enrolled into our EALD (English Support) classes so that they will access additional in class assistance with their English language skills. We welcome the newly enrolling IEC students into the High School with as much care and consideration as is possible and we wish these newly enrolled students all the best in their continuing journey through the Australian education system.

#### **School Uniform**

Term 3 has seen a huge improvement in the numbers of students who wear their full school uniform to school. The Uniform Shop has been open all term and has provided new uniforms to the majority of the school population. Improvements still need to be made in the footwear students wear – all are supposed to wear black, leather, fully covered in shoes – so that they are safe in and out of all classrooms across the school. Hoodies and incorrect jumpers/jackets are banned – if a student is wearing one, the incorrect item will be confiscated

and placed in a Deputy's office until the end of the day. Any student having difficulty getting into the uniform is required to speak to their Deputy Principal, who will assist them with uniform note, the loan of a school jumper, accessing student assistance if needed and communication with staff.

#### **Road Safety**

The Horsley Drive is a VERY busy road, especially at the time of day school ends. It is VERY IMPORTANT that all students use the footbridge and/or the traffic lights when crossing the road. Unfortunately, some members of the public have called the school to complain about students running across the road in front of moving cars. This is very dangerous and needs to stop.

#### **Hospitality Classes**

I would like to commend Mr Heffernan for the work he has done with the Hospitality classes and for the quality of food these students have produced recently. His classes catered for the Year 6 into 7 Welcome Dinner, as well as for the end of Year 12 Hospitality 3 Course Meal for Family and invited staff. The students are very professional in how they present themselves at these school functions and the food they create is of an exceptional standard. This Vocational Education course is one of many skills based courses we offer at the school, preparing students for the world of work beyond school.

Have a great Term 4 – study hard, play hard, work hard and you will have a great time at school.

Ms Knapman, Deputy Principal

School Resumes for Term 4 on the 9th October

## Curriclum

### From Teaching and Learning

NAPLAN - National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy





NAPLAN reports for students in Year 7 and 9 have been distributed to students to share with their parents and caregivers. 2020 will mark the beginning of a push for stronger HSC results and this has been reflected in NAPLAN.

Students in Year 9 in 2017 NAPLAN who attain a Band 8 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy will 'pre-qualify' for the Literacy and Numeracy requirements for the 2020 HSC. Spelling and Grammar and Punctuation assessments have not been included in this formula. Online Literacy and Numeracy assessment will be offered from 2018 onwards. We hope to have the opportunity for our students to be part of trialling these online tests in Term 4.

Any parent who wishes to discuss their child's report can contact Mrs Weber, Head Teacher Teaching and Learning to arrange an interview.

#### **Online NAPLAN Trial**

All students in Years 7 and 9 in NSW will be part of the School Readiness Test (SRT) in Week 9 of Term 3, as we trial the online platform for NAPLAN. It is anticipated that Australia-wide all students will be completing NAPLAN electronically by 2019. This will greatly reduce the turnaround time for results, which in turn, makes the assessments more meaningful as teachers will be able to program explicitly to address areas of need.

#### Intensive Health and Exercise Program (IHEP)

In Term 4, all Year 8 students in the high school, the Special Education Unit and selected students from the Intensive English Centre, will take part in the exciting program of IHEP. Each period one for six weeks, students will be immersed in activities designed to assist them in their fitness and educate students about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Activities will range from Speed

and Agility Training to Flexibility and Nutrition. To facilitate the smooth running of these activities, teachers volunteer their time and energy. This will be the third successive year of IHEP and Year 8 students from the last two years can attest to the skills and motivation they gained from this program.

Each student involved in the program will receive an additional sports shirt, gifted by the school, to assist with equipping Year 8 students with appropriate clothing. A hat and water bottle each day, will also be necessary, as we move into the warmer weather.

We are fortunate to have an enthusiastic PDHPE staff, led by Mr Adam Johnson, who have devised IHEP to benefit our students. Our fantastic facilities - Ultimate Soccer fields, weights room, Drama/Dance space for flexibility and extensive fields - are well utilised throughout the program.

The benefits of a healthy body in terms of academic prowess, have been well documented over time. We look forward to the positive benefits of IHEP with our Year 8 cohort.

**IHEP 2016** 



Showcasing the Teaching & Learning in our Stage 4 Targeted Learning Classes

#### 7 Blue

#### 7 B English Task with sample response

Year 7 students were to write a front page newspaper article. They were asked to write about how a famous person from "Popular Culture" had passed away. Their chosen person could have been a celebrity, famous scientist, political figure, sportsperson, musician, actor, etc. They needed to write an article that focused on their death and how people reacted.

The article should have included biographical details and visual elements that adhered to a

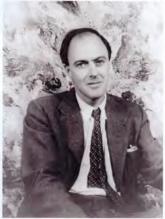
## Moustache Rews

Thursday, June 15, 2017

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#### The Truth to the Best Author's Death!



Roald Dahl at a young age.

John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, England after his death.

Some of his unique books are Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Matilda, The Witches, Fantastic Mr Fox & The BFG. Dahl has shared his imaginative mind to, not just kids, but anyone who is interested in Fantasy.

Such a shame to have lost such a wonderful author, who will make these magical books to entertain children?

"A little magic can take you a long way." -Roald Dahl

YOU TILLE This newspaper article was proudly sponsored by YouTube.

Fake rumours about Roald Dahl's death. Investigators have now found the mysterious cause of his death! By: Amy Li

Roald Dahl is a British this mean you ask? author, a poet, and a This syndrome is a fighter pilot. He has batch of diseases that sold over 250 million harms standard blood books This amazing man was born on the 13th of articles have reported September 1916 and that he has suffered an had died on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of "unspecified November 1990 at the infection." Today we early age of 74. What Myelodysplastic syndrome. What does transported to

worldwide! cell manufacture in the bone marrow. News

have found what has caused his death was been a mystery since forever. He was then

"A person is a fool to become a writer. His only compensation is absolute freedom."



newspaper article format.

#### 7 Blue Health

It's not what we have in our life, but who we have in our life that matters. This term, we have been



participating in a unit of work that explores the qualities of 'Healthy Families'. Year 7 investigated the difference and diversity of family structures; identifying and discussing the similarities and differences between their own and other's families. We followed our discussion by sharing the highlights and downfalls associated with being a part of each family type, sensitively encouraging each other when discussions became difficult.



We discovered that the use of power plays an important role in families. 7 Blue investigated the many types of power and the ways in which power can be used to either support and build family members, or as a method for taking advantage of others. The topic of power led to discussions relating to abuse and neglect in the family, in which we explored the types of abuse and neglect, as well as ways in which each type could be overcome within a range of scenarios.

7 Blue then explored how families interact when we experience difficult times in our lives, particularly during loss and grief. We defined loss and grief, discussing the many ways that we might experience loss and grief in the family. We also looked at grief reactions and ways that we can be empathetic, supporting our family when in need. We analysed resilience, the characteristics of resilience and how our families help to build our resilience. 7 Blue then had to adopt the role of a support person. In groups they analysed scenarios in which family members had suffered some form of loss or grief and were seeking support. The groups discussed coping strategies that family members could implement to successfully manage their loss or grief. We also identified support services that family members

could turn to if the issue was too much to cope with on their own (such as counsellors, therapists, school support services and helplines).

The class have taken on this sensitive unit of work with maturity, empathy, an inquisitive nature and a passion for learning. They have demonstrated excellent problem solving skills and have supported each other's learning throughout. I look forward to watching them further develop their personal skills as the year progresses.

#### Electromagnets investigation with 7 Blue

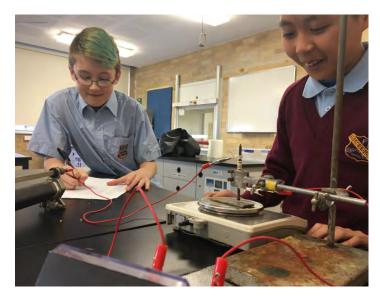
In Science, you learn best when you investigate questions by conducting experiments, not just by reading about it in a book.

7B have been investigating electromagnets, a curious device that is able to act like a magnet with an on/off switch. Rather than just looking up how to make the strongest electromagnet possible, the class acted like scientists, and conducted a range of tests. The students not only experimented to determine the best design for an electromagnet, but also what variables influenced its strength. Through the use of the official electromagnetic field force balance variator (patent pending), students were able to test their designs, and make conclusions about the power of their electromagnet.

As you should all know, a scientist's work is never done! After this experiment, we have uncovered even more questions... What different materials can we use? How does distance effect the strength of an electromagnet? How can we use electromagnets to improve our world? Another investigation for another day!

#### Mark Tregidgo





Dylan Bulluss and Frederick Ha

#### 8 Blue

#### 8 B Georgraphy



During semester 2, 8 Blue is learning about Global Geographical Issues. They identified and discussed the issues from different perspectives. For example, students' discussions ranged from the perspectives of people living in developed countries such as Australia, New Zealand and Canada, people living in developing countries such as Vietnam, Kenya and Indonesia and those living in major cities or the country.

Students independently and collaboratively identified the global geographical issues such as Access to Freshwater, Climate Change, Threatened Habitat, Energy Use, Human Rights, Urbanisation, Tourism, Use of Ocean Resources and Indigenous People and Self Determination. They also completed an overview of the issues using Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) particularly creating a collage of photographs representing the concepts. One

good example is the collage photograph of concepts created by Alija and Bachio. Individual and group work created, has been displayed on the wall to increase visual awareness of the concepts during daily class work. Each student was able to recognise the issues by matching them with relevant photographs and describing them as shown by Emily, Katerina and Thien.



The class worked diliaently has enthusiastically in completing their research assessment task on Endangered and Extinct Plant/Animal Species which they will present to the class. With an option to work in pairs, students demonstrated the elements of understanding, cohesion, and peer mentoring and coaching. They shared group responsibilities based on individual strengths and worked effectively with minimal supervision. The quality of work submitted is thorough and methodical, especially in their ability to describe the different life opportunities and lack of opportunities that contribute to the habitat at risk. Year 8 Blue's ability to maximise the effective use of the allocated time is highly successful and the class is working towards further improvements.

In Term Four, the group will be focusing on Climate Change, a major environmental issue facing our world today.



FHS The Bridge

#### **FHS Gives You Wings**

In class, our topic for this term is 'INSECTOPIA', which means we have been developing our drawing and designs skill using insects as subject matter. As a special project, our teacher (Mrs Midroni) decided we could develop new skills in our topic area whilst contributing something colourful and fun for Multicultural Day.

Our team spent nearly all of our lunches and class



time in the past few weeks putting our creative effort into producing the vibrant butterfly wings. We started painting the canvas with gesso, which is a white background primer. Wing shapes were researched on the internet which resulted in a set of butterfly wings been chosen. We projected the wings onto the white board and then traced them onto the canvas. The next few lessons, we painted the background tones in bright acrylic paints. Once the backgrounds were finished, we started working on using a variety of stencils and spray paints in fluorescent colours to create the intricate patterns.

Creating these butterfly wings has taught us the style of street art and given us the experience of working on a collaborative art project. We have learnt how to use different complementary colour combinations effectively and mix different 2 dimensional painting techniques. Our collaboration skills were used to work together as a team. Much effort was put into creating this site specific installation which can be relocated and reused by simply attaching it to any large wall. Our team relied on each other for each individual's specific skills. We worked really well

together in incorporating our different ideas and creativity to produce this vibrant piece of public



This project took about 4 weeks, including the time that it took to dry. We spent our lunch times, class time and sometimes before school and recess to bring it to completion. The final result is something we are proud of. It was great seeing our efforts coming to life in the form of student and teacher butterflies on Multicultural day.

Special thanks goes to Bolin, Bachio and Thomas who designed the poster "Fairfield has Wings!" and all the other students who helped out from 8B during class time.

Angelie Gulshan, Chelsey Be, Uyen On (Ivy), Nicole Oruga



#### From English

More than half the academic year is over and both our English teachers and students are seeing some pleasing results in Stage 4 – 6 Assessment tasks. Special mention must go out to:

Cheyenne Mikaere – 100% in her Module C English Advanced Assessment task.

Gaige Harrison – First in Standard English for his Mid-Course Creative Writing.

Luke Lovero – 100% in his Module C Standard English Trial HSC exam.

Ameldina Mustafic – 100% in her Module B English Standard Assessment task and 100% in her Creative piece in the Trial HSC exam.

Other high performers in English include: Kaiya Clinton, Chelsea Nguyen, Joshua McQuillan, Sandra Ang, Christopher Gallego, Sebastian Sebial, Anthony Tran, Kristyna Vilavong, Lamuel Tong Wong, Catherine Ta, Phoebe Christey, Dilara Kali, Vechara Keo, Sylvia Le, Rhiannon Melnyczenko, Alyssa Mercado, An Thai and Helen Xian.

The above mentioned students scored 100% in one or more recent assessment tasks in English.

Others have been completing outstanding work throughout the year and I encourage them to keep up the great job.

As we bid our Year 12 students a fond farewell and wish them all the best for future work or studies, Year 11 enter the HSC arena. Term 4 marks the beginning of the English HSC course in English Studies, Standard, Advanced and Extension. Good luck Year 11!

Head Teacher English, Mr Bianca,

## **From Support**

In the Support Unit this term, students have actively participated in a range of activities that extend teaching and learning beyond the school gates.

#### **SEU Consumers Chart their Local Territory**

During weekly grocery shopping excursions, students are encouraged to use their geographical skills to navigate Neeta City Shopping Centre to purchase grocery items for their practical Food Technology classes. These

shopping excursions also provide students with valuable opportunities to observe and categorise different types of shops that exist within their local community. As the photographs below demonstrate, shopping etiquette and road safety practices provide an additional focus for students during grocery shopping excursions.





#### **Learning to Dress for Workplace Success**

As participants in the Dress for Work Program, the senior *Work in the Community* class are learning how a neat, professional appearance can create a positive first impression during job interviews. They are currently planning an excursion to the Dress for Work's Bankstown office, where they will be outfitted with complimentary, suitable work attire. Stay tuned for some great before and after photographs.

#### Work, Work, Work, Work

Selected students in Years 10, 11 and 12 have eagerly participated in work experience this term. This work-based learning program provides students with real world, hands-on experiences that connect classroom lessons with learning in the workplace. It also promotes greater

awareness of career pathways and options, as well as students' workplace rights and responsibilities - #success.

Hear what Nicholas De Rosa said about his work placement experience at Cabra-Vale Diggers:



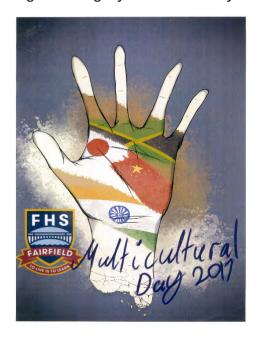
"I really liked the hands-on work that I did, like weeding and watering the gardens."

## Home is where the Class is: Career Education at Home

It is a well-known fact that parents and caregivers influence the career choices of students. Research suggests, however, that very few secondary students know about their parents and caregivers' paid and non-paid work experiences. Sharing this type of information with your children can promote wider occupational choices and more realistic perspectives from which they can make informed decisions about their post school pathways.

#### **Student Achievement**

Congratulations to Billy Nunez for taking out first prize in the Multicultural Day Poster Competition, Digital Category. Well done Billy.



Information about work experience, shopping and our Life Skills Community Access Program, will continue to be conveyed via student permission notes and online at the Fairfield High School Website.

#### From Mathematics

The Mathematics Faculty at Fairfield High School has been working on key initiatives to improve the range of educational opportunities available to students in all years. Our aim is to ensure every student has a positive experience in their high school mathematics education. We acknowledge that all students come to Fairfield High School with different levels of experience and engagement with maths, and we aim to provide opportunities for all students to learn and enjoy maths regardless of these differences.

## Highlighting Student's Work - FHS School Website

The work and success of students in mathematics classrooms at Fairfield High School has recently been shared via the school website. We encourage all parents and students to regularly visit the school's website, where you will find within the mathematics section information on: subject selection for Years 11 and 12, extracurricular opportunities such as competitions, careers in mathematics and STEM, as well as celebrating student involvement in the subject.



#### **Post School Opportunities**

Recently Fairfield High School Mathematics students have been involved in a number of initiatives run by the University of Technology, Sydney(UTS). Year 12 students have been tutored by university student Dima Abdulahad in Mathematics 2 Unit. The students were joined on Friday afternoon in Week 6 and 7 and were engaged in excellent collaborative learning as part of the U@Uni tutoring scheme. We congratulate these students for giving extra time to their studies and recognising the positive outcomes that can come from a group learning environment.

Year 10 student Pedro Barrientos-Rios participated in UTS's Maths Matters program. Pedro and myself(Mr Watson) attended UTS

on Thursday August 24 to learn about the mathematics in design, creating Lumifolds. The activity was fun and engaging and we were both lucky enough to bring home a pretty cool lamp!



Mr Woo's Visit

In Term 2, students from Mr Kritikos' Extension Mathematics class were visited by mathematics teacher Mr Woo, famous for his online videos of his lessons, recent Australian Story and countless television and conference appearances. Mr Woo is an advocate of modern teaching techniques and showed the class card tricks and number games to consider, leaving them with the problem of how each trick worked. We are very grateful for Mr Woo's visit and the students (and Mr Kritikos) are definitely fans.



SchoolsPLUS and SC Johnson Sponsorship

Fairfield High School recently applied for and

was successful in receiving sponsorship from SchoolsPLUS for our MathsPATHWAY program to support our students' mathematics education. The funding is provided by cleaning product company SC Johnson. I(Mr Watson) was given the chance to share with the employees of this company what a fantastic difference their support would make for all current and future students of Fairfield High School. The \$100,000 pictured here is (unfortunately for us) shared across many schools and will not all be received by FHS, however we are still forever grateful for their generosity and look forward to sharing with you further how this initiative progresses.



HSC support - As Term 3 draws to a close, students of Year 12 should note that they need only to request outside support for it to be given. In addition to the numerous avenues provided such as the Homework Centre, teachers have access to online and face to face resources to support students and we encourage students to always ask for what they specifically want in addition to what we give.

Homework Centre - The Homework Centre is open Tuesday to Friday in the library after school, with Mr Kritikos representing the Mathematics Faculty on Wednesdays and Thursday. Teachers can be arranged to attend on Tuesdays or Fridays upon student request, and we encourage students to take up this opportunity.

Question for the Term - How many times do the minute and hour hands of a clock form a right angle in one day?

If you know the answer and can explain why, come to the maths staffroom to receive a small prize.

Mr Watson, Head Teacher Mathematics

#### From HSIE

It has been another busy term in the HSIE faculty in Term 3. We have had some change of staff within the faculty. I'd like to welcome Mr Siaki who has replaced Mr Petrakis for the remainder of 2017. Two competitions that have recently occurred at FHS has been the Australian History & Geography competitions.

In the Australian Geography Competition the faculty would like to congratulate the following students on their outstanding achievements.

High Distinction: Kristyna Vilavong (Year 10)

**Distinction:** Christopher Gallego (Year 10)

Credit: Sandra Ang, Jonathan Boonkasem (Year

10)

We've also very pleased to announce the following awards in the *Australian History Competition:* 

**High Distinction:** Fredrick Ha (Year 10)

**Distinction:** Christopher Gallego, Jonathan Boonkasem, Jovana Slijepcevic, Phillip Bounkongkeo & Sandra Ang (Year 10)

Credit: Lamuel Wong (Year 10)

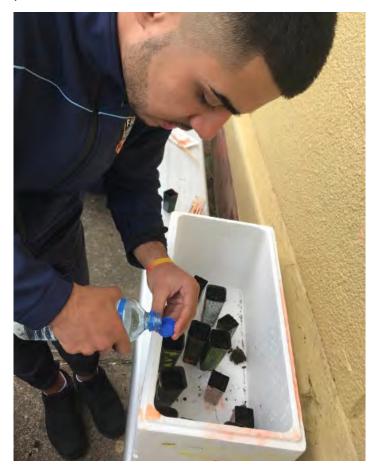
Merit: Anthony Tran, Mohammad Ilyas Abawai, Athraa Al Mikhail & Anthony Nyugen (Year 10)

The HSIE faculty has been busy creating powerful and interesting lessons for students at FHS. Year 11 Business Studies students enjoyed a presentation from Dessert Boxes Co-founder, Samantha Khater who discussed life as an entrepreneur. The Australian Taxation Office came to visit Year 11 Work Studies to discuss the importance of the government agency and why it's relevant for students today. Year 7 History students performed a practical mummification lesson which was a very enjoyable practical experience. The Victory in the Pacific March at Cabra-Vale Diggers is an important day for Fairfield High School. The school was represented by Krystal Oeti, Ediberto Remo, Kacey Donnelly and Faeza Ajerie (Year 11) and examined the importance of Australian Soldiers in WW2. Year 10 Geography students have started to create a vegetable patch near R-Block re-enforcing the importance of the environment. Students in Year 10 Commerce have also completed the Smith Family Certificate in Financial Management which was part of a 2 day intensive course in conjunction with The Smith Family.

We would also like to wish the Year 12 cohort the very best for their upcoming HSC Examinations. Students are advised to complete past HSC papers and revise and refine their summary notes so that they've prepared thoroughly for their final examinations.



Year 7 students examine the mummification process!



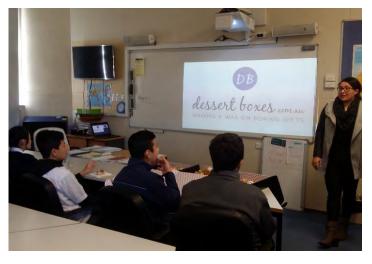
Year 10 Geography students have started to work on a vegetable yard near R-Block



Students presenting in Year 8 History.



Fredrick Ha, a high distinction winner in the Australian History Competition



Samantha Khater, co-founder of Dessert Boxes provides insights into life as an entrepreneur.

Year 11 students participated in the "Victory in the Pacific" March at Cabra-Vale Diggers.



# From EAL/D (English as an Additional Language or Dialect)

### Support at Fairfield High School

The key role for EAL/D teachers at Fairfield High School is to support the needs of students extra assistance with requiring Standard Australian English (SAE) in order to access the curriculum across key learning areas (KLA). Our school offers two key learning models to enable support to occur where students need it the most. The courses offered by Faculties such as, HSIE and Science are difficult for students who are still acquiring English as an additional language. One model of success for EAL/D support has been to target students into a parallel class in Stage 4 and Stage 5. This is especially important for students who are exiting the Intensive English Centres. The class size is smaller and offers a differentiated curriculum for students to achieve the outcomes of the courses. The other model is in-class team teaching support from a specialised trained English Second Language (ESL) teacher. This is where the specialised KLA teacher and ESL teacher work together to plan for lesson delivery and devise lessons that are based on acquiring the English language for demanding academic language rich courses offered by our school.

This year Fairfield High School celebrates the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of publishing Our Faces Our Stories book. This wonderful program has been organised over the years by Ms Deefholts whose passion for the students and their stories has been pinnacle to the success of the book. Ms Hannigan a wonderful Art teacher who has an amazing ability to bring students artwork to life has also contributed to the success of the book. Ms Hannigan works closely with the students who bring in a picture or artefact that represents their story and together they create beautiful images

that match the student's stories. The artwork and stories are testimony to the resilience of many of our students who have had to overcome many hardships.



In Term 3 the Year 11 English ESL classes went on an Excursion to the city that incorporated a visit to the Museum of Contemporary Art. These senior students represented Fairfield High School in their new school uniform and I can say that Ms Pasalic, Mr Markoski and I felt very proud to be in the city with them. The students not only looked good they were excellent ambassadors for our school.





This year the school offered a Bridging Course to senior students who were unable to enrol into the Preliminary courses Term two and three. The teachers involved with this course designed new modules covering five key learning areas: English, Certificate of Spoken and Written English, Science, Mathematics and Visual Arts. The students have been enjoying the new challenging modules and I know that the Science class has been very engaging. The Science teacher Mr Tregidgo designed teaching and learning programs that involved the students to be forensic investigators and find out who was involved in a crime. The students have been learning the academic English language of senior courses for Years 11 and 12 and I have no doubt that they will be guite successful in the next few years and the faculty looks forward to sharing their successes.

Last year the EAL/D faculty moved from the student, support staffroom and are now located within the English Faculty staffroom. The contact number is 9727 2111 extension number 557. The move has been a positive one for EAL/D staff who work closely with the English teachers teaching junior English mainstream parallel EAL/D classes.

Ms Ogilvy. Head Teacher EAL/D

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http://www.fairfield-h.schools.nsw.edu.au





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#### From TAS

#### **Timber Products and Furniture Technologies**



### **HSC Major Projects**

2017 Industrial Technology Timber students from Fairfield High School came up with their own designs and sketches of what they intended to design as their HSC Timber Major Project. Students have constructed major projects such as a study desk, coffee table, pool table, cabinets, entertainment unit, jewellery stand and a make-up table.

On behalf of our Year 12 Industrial Technology Timber Class, I would like to thank our teacher Mr Singh for spending his valuable time with us to help complete and finish our Major HSC projects and also not to forget to mention a special thanks to Mr Singh for his great support for staying after school just to help us complete our major projects as well as attending school on the weekends (Saturdays). Throughout the project there have been both ups and downs.

#### **Student Reflections:**

It's has been a fun year in designing and building my project from my own choice of timber. The help and motivation I have received throughout the construction of this project has been greatly appreciated and honoured. My fellow peers have also helped and motivated me throughout this project. Industrial technology timber is a fun subject, anything is possible to build and just think wisely and be positive with all your decisions.

Mr Singh helped us a lot during the construction time to complete our projects. My project has come out the way I wanted it. I really appreciate the bond and incentive from my fellow class mates as they were all keen and interested in what I was doing. I received a lot of feedback from those who have seen my project and it has helped me to improve my project as well. I would like to thank everyone for helping me and motivating me and showing interest in what I have accomplished

It was fun and interesting working with my class mates to achieve the same goal as my peers. Without the motivation and support from our colleagues and my teacher, I would have struggled to complete my HSC project on time including portfolio worth 20% of the HSC mark.



Principal Mr Borg appreciating the excellent student projects

## Wellbeing

#### From Welfare

The Welfare Team have been very active again this term, addressing the safety, health and wellbeing needs of all of our students. I would like to thank Ms Kim-Rich who relieved as Head Teacher Welfare in my absence in weeks 1 – 3 this term. Ms Kim-Rich did an amazing job working with the team to address needs as they arose and co-ordinating programs such as the OneSight free eye check proposed for next term. I would like to acknowledge Ms Kim-Rich's hard work and commitment to the role, it was appreciated by the whole team.

Some of the focus areas underlying many of the programs and presentations for the students this year are Safety Online and Cyberbullying, Mental Health Awareness and Road Safety.



Our Police Youth Liaison Officers, Senior Constables Hapi and Czarina, addressed Year 7 at the Term 3 Year Assembly on cyber safety and cyber crime, encouraging students to stay safe and reminding them of the steps to follow in the event that they experience cyber bullying – BLOCK IGNORE REPORT DELETE

The school funded a Mental Health Awareness presentation by the group LIVIN for our Year 10 cohort. Many students were able to relate to the messages, their slogan – *It ain't weak to speak* was reinforced many times through stories. Ms Hogan and I continue to run the RUOK? Lunches

on a Thursday Week A in the Student Services Room in S Block. All students are welcome to attend for a delicious cheese toastie, other surprise food options and some socialising with peers. On Friday September 1, we will take a group of school leaders to experience RUOK? In the Royal Botanical Gardens. Students will listen to RUOK? Ambassadors and quest speakers and participate in various activities, designed to equip the students with skills to cope with life challenges and raise awareness of mental health in our society. They will be encouraged to reach out and help those they care about in times of need, Fairfield RUOK? Day will be held on September 18 at the school. Our RUOK? Leaders will assist on the day. Selected students will participate in games and listen to a RUOK? Day Ambassador as well as enjoying lunch with invited guests. Fairfield High School values the importance of supporting student wellbeing, all students are encouraged to seek help and quidance to assist with all areas of their wellbeing. S Block staff can be accessed at recess, lunch or by appointment, to help with any learning or wellbeing need.

Please also remember these support services available in the community:

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800

Lifeline 13 11 14

Headspace 8785 3200

All students have been spoken to about the importance of keeping safe in the community by using road sense as pedestrians and bike riders. Please remind and encourage your child to follow road safety rules and use the pedestrian overbridge to cross the Horsley Drive and use pedestrian lights to cross major roads. In addition, many students are not wearing bike helmets or not connecting the strap when they are wearing one. It is illegal to ride a bike without a helmet. Please help us keep your children safe.

Guest speakers have presented to Years 8 and 11 on future career paths and Year Advisors are spending a lot of their time assisting students with scholarship applications. Many talented and hardworking students are eligible for scholarships designed to assist them in achieving their potential at school, a number of scholarships are also offering financial support for HSC and university studies. Please support your child's

involvement in community and leadership roles in the school. Involvement in these activities not only supports their applications for scholarships and in the job market in the future, but helps them **connect** with peers, teachers and the school community, **succeed** in the achievement of their goals and allows them to **thrive** in their educational endeavours.

Wishing you all a great Spring break with family and friends.

Ms Coonan, HT Welfare

#### From Transition

Year 6 Welcome Dinner



On 17 August Fairfield High School hosted the Year 6 Welcome Dinner for, as the name suggests, Year 6 students who have or are planning to enrol in Year 7 at Fairfield High School in 2018.

Approximately 180 guests attended the evening and experienced the warmth, hospitality and professionalism that distinctly belongs to our school.

Our wonderful SRC students, dressed in the new blazers, demonstrated outstanding leadership and public speaking as they welcomed guests and MCed the evening.



Year 12 Hospitality, under the inspiration and instruction of Mr Heffernan, did an absolutely amazing job of catering for the evening. The dishes were amazing, the service impeccable, and many parents commented on the high standard delivered on the evening.

Year 6 students and their families were entertained by talented dance and music students who performed a range of numbers to resounding applause. A huge thank you to Ms Lykourezos and Mr Honyak for the great work and rehearsal time with preparing students.

Another huge thanks to the marvellous Head Teacher of TAS, Ms Molina, and Ms Brozzesi for giving the coffee machine a work-out and keeping everyone caffeinated throughout the evening.

Thankyou to Najaf Yousif, SLSO from the IEC, for doing a wonderful job at translating on the evening. Further thanks and acknowledgement is given to staff who attended this evening, took photos, mingled with parents, and welcomed our incoming Year 7 students. Your time and support is highly valued and acknowledged with thanks.

Finally, congratulations and well done to our Year 6 Adviser and Assistant Adviser, Nikola Anderson and Aqsaa Khan, for organising a magnificent and memorable evening. Both of you are outstanding as individuals and together make a phenomenal team. Year 7 2018 are privileged to have you as their Adviser.

#### Fairfield High School Refugee Mentor Program

This term, six of our Year 9 Student Leaders travelled to Smithfield Public School as part of the Fairfield High School Refugee Mentor Program. After delivering the Program to students at Fairfield Public School last term, our Year 9 mentors were keen to meet the students at Smithfield.

Over four weeks, our students delivered a range of lessons that developed literacy and numeracy skills in Stage 2 students while focusing on various aspects of Australia's geographical and indigenous heritage explored through the lense of our great Australian icon, QANTAS. Our Year 9 mentors also developed their own English language proficiency, communication skills and leadership capacity.

All students involved clearly enjoyed the program,

developed bonds of friendship and grew from the experience.

Congratulations and well done to Saied, Sajad, Rita, Selvana, Diana and Maryam for being outstanding mentors and excellent role models for all students.

#### Peer Support - Year 9 Peer Leader Training

The Peer Support Program is a Peer led, skills based, experiential learning program that empowers young people to support each other and contribute positively to the school environment and to society. At Fairfield High School, the Peer Support Program is used to assist in the transition of Year 6 primary school students to Year 7 high school.

On 15 September, over twenty of Year 9's aspiring leaders participated in a Peer Support Training Day. This day focused on developing team work, leadership and communication in readiness for becoming a Year 10 Peer Leader in 2018. Students learned and practiced strategies involving building relationships, identifying and utilising interaction styles, making decisions and problem solving.

Year 9 are to be commended for their engagement and participation on the day. We look forward to witnessing your leadership journey.

Thank you to Ms Brown and Ms Anderson who were also involved in the training day. Your support and dedication to students and this program is acknowledged and sincerely appreciated.



WHAT A GREAT MULTICULTURAL DAY @ FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

From manning the front gate with the security

guards, videoing performances, and taking photos, to actively supervising the rotating sessions and the students at recess and lunch, everyone had a role to play and contributed to the overall success of the day.



The mesmerising and cleansing Smoking Ceremony performed by Uncle Steve Williams certainly cleared the way for a wonderful day. The flag ceremony was uplifting, left students and staff feeling cultural pride, and then united as Alice and Aileen sang Advance Australia Fair. Many thanks to Ms McPherson for organising the Smoking Ceremony (and back-up) and a huge thank you to Mr Downie for coordinating the Flag Ceremony and Piper.



Walking around all of the sessions and activities it was great to see so many happy student faces, either as participants, performers, helpers or members of the audience. Student talent was

shining in the talent quest, drama and dance performances and is testimony to the time, dedication and effort of the Coordinators of these two events. Congratulations, well-done and thank you Mr Honyak and Ms Lykourezos for the wonderful, professional and vibrant shows you entertained audiences with today. You have highlighted that not only does Fairfield have talent, it's also got the X Factor as well. Acknowledgement and thanks is given to MrTregidgo, Mr Kezic and Ms Younes for assisting with the smooth operation of these events. While we didn't have spinning chairs like on The Voice, we did have six judgmental judges who did a jazzy job of judging the Talent Quest and Dance / Drama Performances. Many thanks to Ms Ghaly, Ms Ponce, Ms Al-Darajji and Ms Knapman for being our judges. Special acknowledgement is given to our guest judges from Fairfield Primary School, Ms Code and Ms Zic for also acting as judges on the day.



Rumour has it that FIFA is now considering hosting the next World Cup Soccer at Fairfield High School, considering the resounding success of World Cup Soccer at Ultimate Soccer. The bulk of the student population rotated through the short, competitive and fun filled soccer matches... that's approximately 1000 high school students, plus 21 primary school students, playing soccer in three hours. I don't know whether this will make the Guinness Book of World Records, but Macquarie Dictionary is sure to use it as an example of efficiency. Thanks to Ms Edwards and Mr O'Connell for coordinating this event, to Brendan Palmer and Ms Weir for assisting, and to Emmanuel Winpea (Year 11) for his passion and enthusiasm for planting the seed for and being involved in the event. A special thank you and acknowledgement is given to Community First Step for running this event, bringing in refs

and supplying prizes. Their partnership with and contribution to Fairfield High School is truly appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.



While these full events were in swina, preparations were occurring on the side for Side Show Alley. From thong throwing, football passing, henna painting, auessina target competitions, and posing for photos and selfies at FHS has Wings and the photo booth... there was something to engage everyone. Ms Kallinikou did a marvellous job coordinating these activities, as did the group of staff involved, namely Ms Midroni, Ms Pasalic, Ms Hogan and Ms Khan. Special thanks is given, once again, to Community First Step for donating and manning the Photobooth, and to Fariah Khan and Asma Igbal for their beautiful and popular henna designs. Acknowledgment and thanks is also given to Mr Cucciniello and Mr Palmer for organising the football target and prizes supplied by the NRL.

By midday the amazing aroma coming out of the S Block guad was tantalising our taste buds and made us all yearn for lunchtime. There is no doubt that in any culture, food brings people together. The Multicultural Day Food Stalls provided a vast array of mouth watering culinary cuisine from all around the world right in the S Block Quad. (I might be biased, but surely the S Block Quad should be listed on the World Heritage Site as a place of cultural significance.) A huge thank you to the 44+ Food Group Leaders and Assistants, along with their student helpers, that created the marvellous feast and Stall decorations that we all enjoyed today. Many thanks and acknowledgement is given to Haitham Jaju and the wonderful team at Parents Cafe for contributing to today's Food Stalls, serving tea and coffee and, of course,

the wonderful marquee you set up for guest to sit down, relax and enjoy the tranquility of the moment. Resounding appreciation, gratitude and gratefulness is given the fabulous Food Stall Coordinators, Ms Molina and Ms Hayes, along with assistants Ms Marinkovic, Ms Brozessi, Ms Tyler, Ms Lightfoot and Ms Khaicy, for all your hard work, shopping trips, meetings, box packing, and the list goes on... In short, Food Group Stalls was a resounding success.

Just as the food started to go down, the lunch time entertainment started to ramp up as music, dance and applause filled the S Block Quad. A huge thank you to Ms Vlahos, IEC Lunchtime Concert Coordinator, Assistant, Ms Peake, and all the students and teachers from the IEC who let us end the day on such a high note.

Many of you will have noticed that we had a small group of special guests dressed in a lighter shade of blue, that joined us in the day's celebration, namely 21 students from Fairfield Public School. Thank you to Ms Anderson, Year 6 Advisor, for coordinating and supervising our Primary School Guests today. The students loved the day, commented on how great the school is, and how great the service is at the school (NB they had just come from one of the Food Stalls and were very happy customers.)



The FHS Student Media Group was busy today getting stories and taking photos of the spectacular events as they unfolded. Congratulations, thank you and well done Ms Higgins for Coordinating the Media Group today. I can't wait to see the write up in next term's edition of the Student Magazine. Thanks also to Ms Mengelsons and Ms Castanedo for taking photos, filming and live-streaming today's events on the official FHS Facebook page.

To all staff who contributed behind the scenes: the best ever SASS staff for selling vouchers, photocopying, and answering all my LMBR finance questions, thank you so much for all you do...not just for today, but on all days. The same applies to our great GAs, Brian, Mario and Stuart, for setting up the Hall and Gymnasium (in compliance with OH&S), shuttling chairs and tables to the now infamous S Block Quad, and dealing with my phone calls and lists of requests. You are truly amazing and, on behalf of Fairfield High School, we appreciate all you do. Also, to fabulous Ms Bardouh, thanks for all your support, especially with the mammoth task of putting together the Supervision Roster. And to Ms Hannigan for organising the Poster Competition - the students' posters have decorated the Staff Program, Parent Program and Community advertising of the event.

Almost there...I would like to thank and acknowledge Mr Honyak again. In the week leading up to multicultural Day, Mr Honyak was running around, moving his sound equipment to S Block Quad, in readiness for the big day. At 7am, on the day itself, Mr Honyak was hooking up keyboards and microphones, carrying speakers, and ensuring the girls who were singing the National Anthem were rehearsing. After all of his performances in the Gymnasium were complete, Mr Honyak ran to the now legendary S Block Quad, brought more microphones and ensured everything was ready and working for the IEC's lunchtime concert. Mr Honyak you are a gem and I truly appreciate all you did.

Finally, Ms Hayes...you have helped in so many big and little ways, especially over the last few weeks leading up to Multicultural Day. Your "don't stress" and "what can I do" were music to my ears. Thanks a million.

Ms Isakov, Head Teacher Transition, Multicultural Day Coordinator

## From Student Engagement

Parents should have now received their child's report from Semester 1. The report included a summary of their child's attendance data for Semester 1.

Education in NSW is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age (17 years). Education for children is important and regular attendance at school is essential for children to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW Department of Education schools work in partnerships with parents and families to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When children attend school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

At Fairfield High School in correlation with the Department of Education students are expected to attend a minimum of 85% of the time the school is open for operation. Parents who are concerned about their child's attendance are encourage to contact the school at any time to speak to the Head Teacher Student Engagement, who can support the reengagement of students into education.

As mentioned in previous newsletter's Fairfield High School is taking a step forward to implementing Positive Behaviour for Learning. Positive Behaviour for Learning is an evidence-based, comprehensive, integrated whole school systems approach that:

supports school leadership teams to create positive learning environments that enable student learning and wellbeing;

addresses the diverse academic and social needs of every student to support them to be successful;

supports students in early childhood settings through to senior years of schooling;

enables schools to establish a continuum of supports that are intensified to meet the needs of every student;

is team driven, using a problem solving approach (data, systems and practices) that engages students, parents and all school staff;

establishes positive social expectations for all in the school community;

provides a framework for the school and its community to collectively support the wellbeing of every student.

Building on existing frameworks at Fairfield High School the CARE Code will underpin the focus of PBL implementation at Fairfield High School. Fairfield High School will focus on instilling expected behaviours under each of the core values of the CARE Code: Community, Achievement, Respect and Environment. On Staff Development Day of Term 3, staff engaged in a variety of activities to increase their understanding and involvement of PBL at Fairfield High School

The planning for Fairfield High School's 2018 is well and truly under way with Ms Hayes working with the Presentation Day Team (Ms Hogan, Mr Signh, Ms Lightfood, Ms Pak, Ms Samonte and Ms Nona) to organise a celebration of success across a wide range of areas at Fairfield High School. The 2018 Fairfield High School Presentation Day will occur on Thursday 8th December 2017 at 11am.

The Positive Re-Engagement **Program** (PREP) continues to engage with a variety of organisations and services to best support the needs of the students included in this class. On the 9th June 2017 the students were involved in a First Aid Course run by Royal Life Saving Australia. This is nationally recognised course that will provide students with important life skills as well as skills to better prepare them for the workplace. Students have also been involved in obtaining Tax File Numbers (TFN) and setting up bank accounts, again an essential requirement for entering the workforce. Students have been involved in developing a Cookbook incorporating their cultural background, with a large focus on meal planning and food preparation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Head Teacher Technology and Applied Studies: Ms Molina for her ongoing support but most importantly the opportunity for the PREP students to prepare a hearty meal. The skills learnt in this lesson were then transferred when PREP students taught students from our SEU how to make scones. Thank you to Ms Chrya for allowing us into your kitchen and the opportunity to engage with your students. The Year 10 PREP students were involved in Senior Taster Lessons on the 8th August 2017. Students were allowed to trial Year 11 subjects as part of the Subject Selection process. On 15th August students engaged in the Australia Science Festival at University of Technology. Students will continue to work with STARTTS and PCYC Cabramatta for the reminder of Term 3.

Ms Hayes, Head Teacher Student Engagement

#### **From Careers**

UNSW ASPIRE Year 7 and Year 8 CareerWorkshops





UNSW Aspire ran two career workshops for Year 7 and Year 8 classes here at school.

Both workshops encouraged students to start considering their future career and study options in an interesting and engaging manner. The sessions ended with students working in groups and presenting their ideas to the class.

#### The Smith Family - Work Inspirations Excursion

Ten Year 10 students attended an excursion run by The Smith Family called Work Inspirations at the local Colgate/Palmolive factory and office.



First students listened to 12 employees about the variety of careers available at Colgate/ Palmolive.



We then had an escorted tour of the modern factory which manufactures detergents and shampoo. It was really interesting as the factory was mostly automated with various robotic machines doing all the work with only one or two people watching over the operations.



In the last session students worked in teams to prepare and then present a presentation about one of the employees career journey.

#### **RSA**

On 22 August, 22 students from Year 11 and 12 completed the Responsible Service of Alcohol Course. This is mandatory for students if they intend to work in the hospitality industry in a position that requires the service of alchohol.

Ms Tyler, Careers Adviser

#### From Year 12

The saying goes: there's nobody older than a high school senior, but nobody younger than a high school graduate. Now, you all are on your final part of your journey ready to begin a new one. Some of you are excited, and some of you are scared. That's understandable. Being asked to embark on a journey with no confirmed destination is scary, but I encourage you to embrace it.

From your years at Fairfield High School, you have gained skills and knowledge that you will be able to apply in your future life.

Many times, students have asked: "What's the purpose of this Sir?"

My answer: "Life"

I hope you all can realise now that everything you have learnt in school whether you enjoyed it or hated it, may at some stage in your life come into fruition. Whether it be you in a Science lesson learning about chemical reactions, even though your dream is to become a musician. The content learnt about chemical reactions may not be directly relevant to your career path, however, the skills acquired such as planning and logical reasoning will be applicable.

Over the years, I have needed to grow and mature myself at an accelerated rate to ensure I could be the best role model for you all. I nicknamed you all to myself, my "little fish". Now that you are sadly leaving, your safety net will also be taken away. You will now have to swim and discover the ocean.

How much you discover will be dependent on you.

How much you learn will be dependent on you. How much you grow as an individual will be dependent on you.

How much you conqueror will be dependent on you.

But, just remember, if you ever need any help or advice, your teachers at Fairfield High School will always be willing to help, within reason. I encourage you all to come back and visit us. It always brings a smile to a teacher's face when their "little fish" return "home".

I will end this article with this. Just because you are all leaving Fairfield High School, a place of learning, it does not mean your learning is done.

You must learn as long as you live.

I hope you have gained that love of learning that your teachers have strived so hard to impart on you over these many years.

"Don't let the turkeys get you down"

Yours truly, sadly and finally,

Year 12 Year Adviser, Mr Lieu

#### From Year 9

I am very happy to return from my time away in the United Kingdom to students who are working well and are demonstrating all the necessary characteristics of good students such as selfdiscipline, respect, compassion and integrity.

It has been a wonderful Term 3 at Fairfield High School with students working well in Year 9. I just want to remind Year 9 students that it is important that they comply with the new uniform policy and make the required adjustments to their uniform.

NAPLAN results have come in and were distributed by Ms Weber in our Monday morning assembly. If you still haven't received your results or if you have any further questions or queries about NAPLAN could you please come and see Ms Weber or myself.

The year assembly this term recognised students with perfect attendance and I congratulate these students who have shown outstanding attendance throughout the semester and I hope to see more students receive these awards. It was also pleasing to present two Silver Awards in this assembly. These are remarkable achievements which all students in Year 9 should aspire to.

Mr Singh has addressed the end of year achievers excursion to Jamberoo with the specific criteria applied in selecting those exceptional students who will be attending this excursion. There are 50 places for this excursion.

Lastly I want to express my sincere gratitude for all the support, encouragement and cooperation Mr Singh has shown. This is a big thank you to you for the favour you did for me and Year 9 in becoming the Year Advisor. Indeed, you are not only the seed of hope for our year group but our inspiration. Thank you for caring and supporting all of us wholeheartedly. The great role you have

is immeasurable and we all appreciate it. I'm grateful for all your help and continued support.

Ms Wilkinson, Year 9 Advisor

### From the Student Magazine

Term 3 marked the beginning of the publication process for the first issue of Fairfield High School's Student Magazine. Students had been collecting and writing content since the beginning of the year. Both staff and students from the Intensive English Centre, Special Education Unit and the main stream high school have contributed a range of items such as: narratives, Anime drawings and poetry just to name a few.

Year 7 students on the Student Magazine Team have been busy interviewing members of our school community at special events such as the Refugee Expo and Multicultural Day.

Our Magazine Publication Days took place on the 18th and 25th of August. Ms Helen Castanedo taught students how to publish the magazine articles using Microsoft Publisher, Adobe PhotoShop and InDesign.

The first issue of the Student Magazine will be distributed to students at the end of Term 3.

Ms Higgins, Student Magazine Coordinator



# Attention Fast Forward University Western Sydney Students



#### YourTutor has changed to become Studiosity.

Studiosity embodies our mission to ensure that students have personalised help, the opportunity to learn and to grow their curiosity and self-efficacy.

The service retains the same high quality anytime, anywhere support, the same dedicated people, and the same academic integrity that you have come to expect.

Fast Forward students in Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 will continue to get help with their essay or report draft in less than 24 hours, or live, expert assistance with courses like English, Maths, Science, Economics and more.

Our friendly course specialists are waiting online to help you, 3pm – late, Sunday to Friday.

To access Studiosity, please log in to studiosity. com/connect

Year 9, 10, 11, 12 - See Mr Markoski for login details

# Show Me The Way and Fairfield High School team up for new program



The national not for profit Show Me The Way (SMTW) and Fairfield High School in NSW recently worked together to provide online mentoring and film workshops for students from refugee backgrounds.



**SMTW** provided has mentoring programs to high school students across Australia since 2010. Since May this year Fairfield High School students have connected online with SMTWtrained e-mentors from the international IT company Verizon to have purposeful online conversations. During the twelve-week program students had regular online sessions and produced short form documentaries of professionals from refugee backgrounds who live and work in Fairfield and Liverpool.



A graduation ceremony took place on August 2nd in the Whitlam Institute at Western Sydney University where the completed films were

shown and students met their e-mentors face to face for the first time. A big thank you to Scanlan Foundation, Verizon, CORE Community Services, Iraqi University Graduates Forum, NSW Education, Ms Ogilvy, the Sydney Story Factory and Kwik Copy, Five Dock for all their support in making this program a great success.

The documentaries produced during the program will form part of the DVD Journey to Freedom 2 and will be available in public libraries across Australia in early 2018.

MS Castanedo, 21st Century Learning and Media Coordinator

## Community



# From the Community Engagement Officer

Fairfield High School and Fairfield Primary School celebrated Education Week 2017 with cultural displays at Neeta City. Both schools combined as we collaboratively highlighted our talented students. Our parents and community celebrated along with us dancing and singing as our students performed. Please visit our school website for more photos.

On the 15th September, we hosted our first Parent Taster Lessons; parents were given insights into the way our teachers teach, and the expectations placed on each student. Parents participated in Mathematics, English, Visual Arts lessons delivered by our Head Teachers. Parents were shown healthy foods for school



lunches to support productive learning.

Thanks to those who attended. Please watch our



website for more Taster Lessons in 2018.

ThinkUKnow who your child is talking to online? ThinkUknow that your children are safe on online? ThinkUKnow is an internet safety program delivering interactive training to parents, carers, students, teachers and local communities.

Australian Federal Police and the Commonwealth Bank will be presenting ThinkUKnow at Fairfield High School on Friday 17th November from 9am. FHS wants to help keep our students, families and community safe online. All welcome. Morning Tea provided.

#### Breakfast Club / Healthy Thursday

Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Wellbeing host Breakfast Club in the Senior Study from 8am to 8.45am. We serve a healthy breakfast for our students. Our expectations are that all students who visit Breakfast Club, be respectful, clean up after themselves and leave the Breakfast Club clean. Wednesdays Parent Café supply a cooked breakfast. Every Thursday lunchtime Come along and grab a free lunch, be quick, as they will not last. Thanks to Oz Harvest and Daystar for your support.

## From the Parents Café (PCFI)

Parents Café (PCFI) has been very active during the term. We have increased our dedicated English language classes to 3 times a week. Language learning also continues with the MTC supported Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program, which takes place 4 days a week. PCFI has continued to support the settlement of IEC parents through delivering sessions from service providers in the Fairfield Area, such as the Refugee Health Service, Legal Aid and STARTTS. Our transitional parents have received sessions on Australian history and culture, health matters and managing pests in the home and garden. They also visited the Bodies of Work exhibition by FHS HSC Art students and learnt about the





creativity and inspiration that went into producing these beautiful works of art.

Our sewing program continued this term in partnership with TAFE Outreach and The Social Outfit. Participants will now receive statements of attainment and this will facilitate the pathway to further education and training. Sydney Community Foundation (SCF) is also a key supporter of women's sewing at PCFI and two of

our ladies, Evaa and Atyaff represented us at





the SCF Saluting Sydney Women 2017 event that honoured Ita Buttrose AO OBE and told how participating in our program helped them to find hope and optimism for their future.

Our catering team has been busy supporting events, both within PCFI, in the school, and in the wider Fairfield community. PCFI continues to supply meals for an increasing number of students in the Breakfast Club every Wednesday morning. Based on feedback received students expressed satisfaction with the variety and amount of food available. It is important to have a nutritious start to the day and we are proud to support all students to be able to achieve their best results. In partnership with CORE Multicultural Communities, a group of our parents completed a 10 week course at Jamie Oliver's Ministry of Food facility at Stockland, Wetherill Park and learnt about hygienically preparing healthy and nutritious food. Congratulations to our graduates!

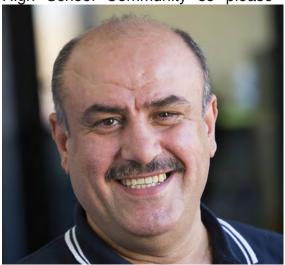
The Community Garden is starting to wake up after winter and is being cared for by our parent volunteers and Karen community team.

Recently PCFI supported FHS at Neeta City during Education Week and promoted our



services. We also participated in the FHS Multicultural day where we provided a selection of traditional food and some of our parents displayed their crafts for sale.

The PCFI community centre is located in F Block and we would love to hear from people who are interested in visiting us and joining our programs. We are here to support the Fairfield High School Community so please tell your



parents about us!



#### Haitham-Manager



Asmaa - Kitchen Supervisor

Nahrain – Administration Support Officer

### **School Info**



## Year 7 Orientation Week Uniform Shop Trading Hours

Please Contact Angelina to book an APPOINTMENT for Orientation week. Angelina on 0431325799 or angielimbu@yahoo.com.au

#### **Tuesday 5th Dec 2017 (Orientation Day)**

8 am - 2 pm

Thursday 7th Dec 2017 : 9 am - 4 pm Friday 8th Dec 2017 : 9 am - 2 pm

## School Holidays Trading Hours January 2018

Tuesday 17th Jan 2018: 9 am - 2 pm Wednesday 18th Jan 2018: 9 am - 2 pm Thursday 19th Jan 2018: 9 am - 2 pm Friday 20th Jan 2018: 9 am - 2 pm

#### **Uniform Shop Normal Trading Hours**

Tuesday: 8 am - 11 am



Thursday: 12.30 pm - 4 pm

Friday: 9 am - 12 pm

Uniform Shop: Contact Angelina: 0431 325799

or Email: fairfield@daylightcorp.com

The Uniform Shop is located within our school. You do not need to report to the front office when attending the Uniform shop.

Ways to Order:

http://daylightsportswear.com/fairfield or simply download an order form, from the School website and bring it to the Uniform Shop.

Your child can pick up their own order.
Payments accepted are Cash / Eftpos / Credit
Card
(American Express and Cheques are NOT
accepted)

Lay-by facility is NOT Accepted



## FAIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

# Intensive English Centre

Term 3, Week 10 Friday 22 Sept

## From the Deputy Principal

Term 3 has been another incredibly busy term for all the staff and students at Fairfield IEC. Staff have been busy organising and running successful excursions, sporting, creative and performing arts programs to assist students with their adjustment. Students benefit greatly from such programs by learning valuable skills that they can also apply to other aspects of their lives.

Some of these programs include our Gardening Group led by Mr Cucciniello. This dedicated and committed group has created a fantastic garden for all to enjoy. Ms Devarkonda has been extremely busy teaching students as well as staff the art of dancing Bollywood style and they were very impressive when they recently displayed their skills in front of the whole school. Ms Redondi has also coordinated our very successful Phoenix Choir. Their performances have been fantastic and there was a great article written about them in the local newspaper.

Multicultural Day 2017 was a resounding success. Our students displayed their talents through various performances that simply impressed the whole school community. Students and staff worked extremely hard to prepare the most delicious food.

Congratulations to everyone who was involved with the organisation of this highly successful day.

Another very worthwhile activity that some of our older students have been involved with has been the YES program through TAFE. Mr Giakoumatos and Ms Svetlov have been responsible for organising weekly visits to various TAFE campuses in order for students to experience the great courses on offer. Staff and students have been very positive in their feedback regarding this program.

Ms Nona delivered yet another successful Families in Cultural Transition program aimed at further engaging our parents with their children's education. Student outcomes are always better when parents and schools work in partnership to support students.

In the classroom, students engaged with their learning and benefitted from new teaching strategies implemented by their teachers. Students learnt about the importance of knowing what the intentions of lessons were and what they needed to achieve and found that these techniques further improved their language skills.

This term, there will be 74 students transitioning to other local high schools. Approximately 40 of these students will be transitioning to Fairfield High School. These

#### **Upcoming Events**

Nov 16
IEC Parent Orientation

Nov 20 Immunisation program

> Dec 18 IEC Graduation

students have successfully completed their time at the IEC and are now ready to continue their studies in other settings. Congratulations to all these students and we wish them all the best of luck in the future.

Mr G. Avgoustou, Deputy Principal

Fairfield IEC

#### From the Choir

#IAMCHANGE We believe in the philosophy that change starts from the individual. The chaotic world we live in today needs bold, inspiring visionaries who are willing to dedicate themselves towards a united community where race, colour or socio economic backgrounds cease to exist and is a thing of the past. Vision of the Phoenix Choir

The Phoenix Choir is a community based organisation that focuses on giving students in the IEC the opportunity to sing in a choir. While some students have experienced singing, many students are singing in a choir for the very first time!

The facilitators, Natalie and Anna, are very experienced, passionate teachers of music and performance. In fact, Natalie founded and directed the National University of the visual and Performing Arts Choir Sri Lanka, which won first runner up in the National Choir competition. These caring and creative teachers meet with an IEC group every Wednesday afternoon during activity sessions. During this time students learn an eclectic array of new material such as old English chants, rap ballads and pop songs. Students are also encouraged to sing in their own language, allowing some talented Arabic singers to take the lead, singing moving Arabic songs.

The Phoenix choir has already performed at two IEC Graduations, Fairfield Primary School and at the FHS Refugee Expo concert. The choir is also very fortunate to have Mr George, an awesome musician, SLSO and choir teacher helping out.

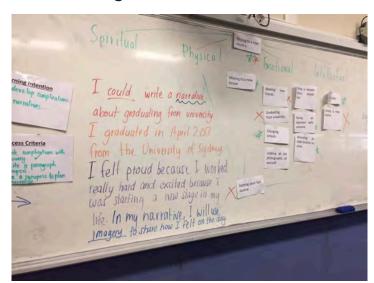
Due to the popularity of the choir Natalie and Anna have extended their tuition to include an after school session on Thursdays for students hoping to extend their participation. This small group will be performing in a concert later in the year and features some of the IEC's most beautiful voices.

The Phoenix Choir will be performing at the upcoming IEC Graduation and hopefully at an

event near you!!

Ms Redondi, Phoenix Choir Asssistant

#### **Visual Learning**



Over the past two terms, staff at the IEC have been engaging in and trialling visible learning techniques in the classroom. The most essential part of this way of learning has been (as the name suggests) making learning clear and visible to all students in the class; students must know what it is they are learning as well as what they must do to show that they understand this. In the context of the IEC, the most important components have been the inclusion of the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria, visible to students on the board every lesson as well as Word Walls which assists in the expansion of vocabulary. Furthermore, the inclusions of some form of writing every lesson wherein students can utilise the new vocabulary they have gained is also essential as writing is a powerful tool of expression and demonstrating what has been learnt. So far, staff trialling the use of visible learning have been seeing excellent results and with more and more staff engaging in professional learning surrounding this, it is hoped that these results will continue!

Ms Lightfoot, Teacher

#### Job Skills Program



This term, a Job Skills program is being run as part of Welfare Activities. Senior boys from three different classes are taking part in this program, which helps them write a resume, understand their rights as workers and gain job interview skills. There are a number of guest speakers who have volunteered to come, including Chris Daniels from Legal Aid. Chris came to speak to the students on Wednesday of Week 8. He gave the students a lot of information about their rights such us pay, leave and unfair dismissal. It was a very useful session for the students. The students will continue to take part in the program for the rest of the term and gain skills and opportunities to help them enter the workforce.

Ms Khaicy, Teacher

#### From the Student Representative Council

Term 3 has been an exciting term for the Student Representative Council (SRC) in the Intensive English Centre (IEC).

All Level 2 students attended meetings for student nominations and over 100 nominations were received. The final student representatives will represent the IEC and their fellow students for the remainder of the year.

The agenda for the year has voiced the need for sports equipment in the IEC area, seeing how popular the table tennis courts have been.

Congratulations to these students and their hard work.

Ms Boukas and Ms Marinkovic, SRC Coordinators

#### **Education Week Comes to Neeta City**

In 2017, the dates 31 July – 4 August marked a very special week in NSW... Education Week! This is a

state-wide event annual event to celebrate public education in NSW. This celebration highlights the achievements of our students, educators, and the communities that support them.







To celebrate these achievements some very talented students from the IEC travelled to NEETA City to share their gifts with the local Fairfield Community. We had two awesome groups representing the IEC, the Bollywood Crew and the Assyrian Queens.

We spent three days at Neeta City sharing our passion for dancing. Our show began with the Bollywood Crew who amazed their audience with their wicked dance moves and colourful costumes. Some little kids even jumped up and started dancing with the girls. Following this, Mariam David, Armand Farjo and Nina Shakro grabbed the microphone and wowed the audience with their beautiful singing voices, busting out *Don't Let Me Down*. The second the

song finished, the rest of the Assyrian Queens jumped to their feet and danced an Assyrian dance, weaving through the enormous audience that had gathered by this point. Everyone was dancing along with them, taking photos, and smiling. They even convinced Mr O'Connell to dance with them at one point!

All the girls performed with such passion and brought an incredible sense of joy to the event. It truly was a beautiful celebration of education and the positive impact it is having on the lives of our students and families in and around the Fairfield area.

Ms Vlahos, Teacher

#### **Bollywood Dancing**



I was lucky enough to fuel the Bollywood Craze, which to my surprise had made its way to the teenage girls of the Middle East. For several weeks now, Mervet and I have had the opportunity to choreograph a Bollywood dance with the 18 cheery girls of 2SC and 3SA. We have all thoroughly enjoyed listening to the upbeat music of India and working together to create a dance that would entertain the students, teachers and parents at Multicultural Day. Thanks to the help of Ashley Vlahos, the girls were able to showcase their work during the lunchtime concert. Although weeks of practicing was over in less than five minutes, it was the happy attitude of the girls that made the entire performance worth it.

Bollywood dancing is a chance for the girls to come out of their shells, gain some confidence and have fun. At first, a few girls were shy and reluctant however, after a few sessions these same girls were coming out to the front and rocking the moves! It was wonderful to see the girls enjoy themselves in an environment that

was free of judgement. Some girls already had a passion for dancing and were embracing their creativity by contributing to the choreography. We are now continuing with our dancing to create an even more entertaining performance at the IEC graduation ceremony.

Ms Devarkonda, Teacher

#### **TAFE**







Every Friday this term, a number of our students have been attending TAFE through the YES program. Our students have been learning to use a plane, to cut glass and to use a number of heavy power tools.

Over our first two weeks, we had an introduction to the tools and then got right in to making a garden stool. At the end of the second week, we all were able to take our stools home. Before we had even left TAFE, the guys were finding uses for their new creations.

The following week we started and finished our own hand cut mirrors. We learnt to cut glass, join wood and even burn designs into our frames.

All in all, TAFE has been a really productive experience. The students have learnt a number of new skills, demonstrated a great understanding of workplace safety and formed a great bond with their TAFE instructors.

Mr Giakoumatos, Teacher

#### Watson's Bay Adventure



On Tuesday, 5th September all of the foundation classes at Fairfield High School Intensive English Centre went on an excursion to Watson's Bay. First, the students caught a train to Circular Quay Station and saw the Harbour Bridge. It was a beautiful, sunny morning and the students got lots of photos of the city. Next they caught a ferry to Watson's Bay. For many students it was their first time catching a ferry. They rode past the Sydney Opera House and Garden Island and watched as the city grew smaller and smaller behind the back

of the boat.

Soon, they arrived at Watson's Bay wharf. The sun shone as they got off the ferry and went for a walk around the Bay. Lunch was a picnic in the park, the students pulled out their picnic blankets, ate a decadent selection of foods and learnt the hard way why you should never share your food with sea gulls. After their lunch had settled some students played soccer with Mr Nguyen and Miss Alderman. If they were in the Socceroos then there may have been a better chance of qualifying for the World Cup this year.

Finally, B1, 2, 3 and 4 caught the ferry back to Circular Quay. There was a little bit of time before the train back to Fairfield so the students enjoyed some ice cream by the sea. Everyone had a great day at Watson's Bay and were exhausted by the time they got back to school.

Miss Peake, Teacher

#### **IEC Garden Club**





In Term 3, three keen students formed the IEC Garden Club, and after a couple sessions the Garden Club grew to 17 students. The students meet Mr Cucciniello (IEC Teacher) and Marlene

Carrasco (Community Garden Worker from after Wednesday Cityfood2u), school work in the IEC garden from 3pm to 4:30pm. Cityfood2u aims to support students interested in gardening. Students learn organic methods of food production based Permaculture principles and ethics. By participating weekly students gain confidence and develop leadership in themselves and demonstrate their unique skills in the outdoor education site. The students have created and helped build garden beds, they have planted and transplanted plants, started growing seedlings, prepared soil for plants to grow in and at the end of each session the students harvest vegetables they would like to take home. Some of the vegetables that are growing are Japanese rocket, lettuce, kale, parsley, bok choy, garlic, spring onions and beetroots. Students are learning where their food comes from and are becoming aware of the work involved to grow food.



Mr Cucciniello, Teacher

#### **Excursion to Circular Quay**

On Monday 4th of September, classes 1JA and 1JB, together with their teachers, went on an excursion to Circular Quay. We had a great time visiting The Opera House, The Botanical Gardens and Custom House. We also walked along the Quay and watched the Aboriginal digeridoo player and danced the 'Chicken Dance' with one of the buskers.

We had a lovely lunch at McDonalds, as we sat outside at the tables and soaked in the sun. We just had to be careful of the seagulls! They try to take any food they can, especially the chips!

We had a great day and saw lots of interesting places.

Ms Fatouros, Teacher







