

# NEWSLETTER

Alexandria  
Park  
Community  
School is on  
Gadigal  
Land

Term 4 November 2020

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## PRINCIPAL REPORT

Happy NAIDOC Week 2020 (8-15 November).

This year's theme 'Always Was, Always Will Be' celebrates the very first footprints on this continent were those belonging to First Nations peoples. NAIDOC Week is usually held every year in early July. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NAIDOC Week was postponed and the National NAIDOC Committee announced that this year celebrations will be held in November. At APCS we will celebrate on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> November.

Hilton, Louise and I had the privilege to attend the NASCA NAIDOC Awards held at L'Aqua at Cockle Bay.

An amazing and inspiring event. Students from across Sydney NASCA schools who won awards this year spoke eloquently and passionately, each one having to give a speech aligned to the values of the NASCA program and this year's NAIDOC theme 'Always Was, Always Will Be.'

Congratulations to Yilara Widders of year 11 who won an award for culture and inclusivity. Her family, in attendance at the event, were very proud. Have a wonderful NAIDOC week and I look forward to our school's celebrations on Friday.



**Always Was,  
Always Will Be.**  
8-15 NOV 2020





## Here's to the year 12 class of 2020 and the HSC

Our HSC examinations concluded on 11 November. Year 12 teachers and students have worked with remarkable resilience and commitment this year –and all should be proud of what they have achieved so far. I want to commend you for your tremendous efforts and we look forward to our HSC results which will be released by NESA on Friday 18 December 2020.



### Congratulations to Rachel Dulson who was recently

presented with Department of Education 'network' award in recognition of the significant contribution she has made to Alexandria Park Community School.



### Settling into phase 1 of our new school

In general, the logistics of moving the school, K – 12, and the community centre were successfully undertaken. Students and staff are really excited about the spaces. The variety of learning spaces, furniture and technology lend themselves to catering for a number of futures focussed learning modes. The Alexandria Park Community School Rebuild is directly influenced by the APCS Educational Model (2017). It supports a shift from teacher centred practices to learner centred practices that are contemporary and comprehensive. The spatial typologies of Alexandria Park Community School's innovative learning spaces are designed to enhance this learner centred experience, support a comprehensive and individualised range of teaching and learning strategies and improve the delivery of particular learning modes. The spaces are called Open Learning Spaces Collaborative Presentation Spaces, Presentation spaces, Practical activity areas and Informal learning areas

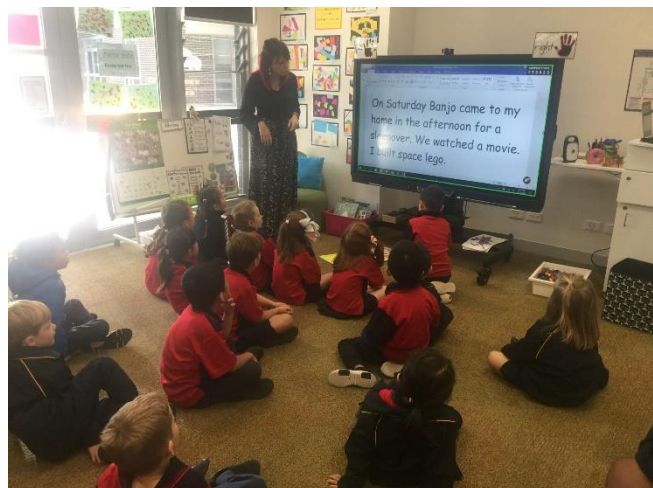


### Planning for 2021 at Alex Park

We are very excited about the future and are planning for continuing improvements in excellence at APCS.

### The APCS Strategic Improvement plan (SIP) 2021 – 2024

The K – 12 school plan team is collecting and analysing school and system data to prepare our situational analysis, it is from the work that we will create our SIP, a working document that details the steps our school will take to improve learning outcomes, and the achievement and growth of our students



## Anticipated enrolments for 2021

At this stage we are anticipating that in 2021 our enrolments K – 12 will exceed 1,000 students, with 511 students in the primary school and 490 in the secondary school. We will increase the number of classes in K – 6 to 22 which is an additional 2 classes. In the secondary school we will be increasing the number of classes in year 7 to 5 ensuring small year 7 classes to support a strong learning and wellbeing start to high school.

### Meet our new K-6 Librarian

**Name:** Miss Beth Ruschen

#### Academic Qualifications & Institution:

- Bachelor of Education (Primary Teaching) – Charles Sturt University
- Master of Education (Teacher Librarianship) – Charles Sturt University



**Teaching experience (courses, years, schools):** I started teaching in 2012 at Forest Hill Public School in Wagga Wagga and I've been there ever since! While I was there, I was lucky enough to be a classroom teacher in Early Stage One, Stage Two and Stage Three. I've also spent the last few years in the Teacher Librarian role, which means I get to teach K-6 in some of my favourite areas, and I LOVE it!

**2020 teaching load at Alex Park (courses, years):** K-6 Teacher Librarian in the Yaka Takka!

**Other responsibilities at Alex Park (faculty-based, extra-curricular):** OR areas of passion / interests that you would like to be involved in at Alex Park: I have coordinated and taught many dance groups (contemporary and aerobics) who have all competed in eisteddfods and Riverina Dance Festivals. As well as this, I've run infants and primary choir groups, and I have also played the piano for many years, teaching it here and there, so anything related to music, I'm interested! Although, I'll likely give most things a go if an extra hand is needed.

**Beliefs/goals in relation to teaching, learning and student achievement:** I definitely believe that a great student/teacher relationship is the underlying key to success in teaching. I'm very excited to turn the brand new Yaka Takka into a safe, fun and engaging learning space where students can learn, make mistakes, grow and ultimately reach their potential.

**First impressions of Alex Park:** Everyone at APCS has been SO welcoming! Every teacher has been helpful, friendly and happy to answer my endless questions, while each student has shown respect and a tonne of excitement while in the Yaka Takka. I've really enjoyed my first week in this role and I can't wait to see what's around the corner!

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Date	What's Happening
5 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> November	HSC Examinations Continue
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Kindergarten Orientation 09:30-10:30
13 <sup>th</sup> November	NAIDOC Day at APCS
18 <sup>th</sup> November	Kindergarten Orientation 09:30-10:30
18 <sup>th</sup> November	OC Placement Test
26 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 7 "Not Rocket Science" incursion
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 7 Selective Students Orientation
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 7 Orientation – Surnames starting with A-L
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Year 7 Orientation – Surnames starting with M-Z
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Final SRE/SEE lessons for 2020

## PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

What an exciting term we have had at APCS, all our students are getting to know our new spaces and are engaged in many learning experiences in our new learning hub classrooms. I would like to personally thank each and every K-6 student for the flexibility, resilience and team work they have shown as we have moved schools and continued with our learning.

We have a busy end to the term ahead, this week K-12 students will be celebrating NAIDOC on Friday with a day of fun filled Indigenous activities, we also have our follow up kindergarten orientation mornings this week and next, we are very excited to have 87 new kindergarten students starting at APCS in 2021.



On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November we have a number of our year 4 students sitting the opportunity class placement test, we wish them all the best!

Our Special Religious Education/Special Ethics Education program will finish up for the year on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our volunteers that make this program possible.

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December K-6 Semester Two reports will be distributed.

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> of December will be our virtual K-6 video presentation to celebrate the K-6 students of Alexandria Park and their achievements throughout 2020.

On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December will be our K-6 Positive Behaviour for Learning Carnivals, this year we will run multiple mini carnivals in the student's learning hub groups. This will ensure we are able to have a CovidSafe celebration recognising how our students are always ready to be safe and respectful learners.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December will be the students last day of the school year.

Looking forward to a busy and productive end of term

Mrs Lucy Smith Rel. Deputy Principal

### EARLY STAGE 1(KINDERGARTEN) NEWS

Kindergarten has been getting to know our new school. We love our new classrooms where we have jumped straight into learning and created some amazing art to brighten up our space!

We have had lots of fun exploring the gardens (our new Bush School!) and using the Yarra Mundi for story time and even some sports games.

It is so exciting playing up in the clouds on the Oraywa and we are becoming masters of the new play equipment in the Burra Gurang.





## STAGE 1 (YEAR 1&2 NEWS)



Pic 1: Year 2 students having fun in their Book Week Costume while working hard in literacy rotations.

Pic 2: Getting used to our new learning hubs has never been so much fun!

Pic 3: This is our eating space for lunchtime. We love sitting out here together.

## STAGE 2 (YEAR 3&4) NEWS

On Fridays after lunch, Stage 2 students are participating in STEAM activities, which includes Forces. The students are placed into groups and conduct a variety of experiments that involve Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. Students will be researching, designing and making solar ovens, bridges, chariots, artworks and how gravity works. Below are what students thought about the first rotation in their STEAM activities.



Keika: "You really need to research before building and designing your chariot because if you skip these steps your final product wouldn't be able to fit the design brief"

Jemima: "It was fun to gather all the materials and watch how some other bridges were made, so that it gave our group ideas to build our own bridge."

Aden: "It was such a fun experience to make a solar oven and it even worked!"

## STAGE 3 (YEAR 5&6) NEWS

### Year 6 Student Admin Assistants



We have introduced a new leadership opportunity for our Year 6 students who will act as assistants to our Bunin (administration) staff. We've had positive feedback already, and students are excited to take up the responsibility.

Shyaleigh and Sienna (5/60)

**Tony Albert art workshop** This term, a select group of Year 6 students took part in an art workshop with artist, Tony Albert. They used found objects to create 'alien' creatures, which Tony will combine to create an art installation early next year. We loved having the opportunity to work with Tony again, and look forward to seeing the final piece of art.







## PRIMARY MUSIC NEWS

Primary School Music News – Mr Whipp

The transition for students and families into the new school has been smooth. The new Primary School Music Space is beautiful and fresh and students have responded very well to being in there! There has been some fantastic music making in all classes.



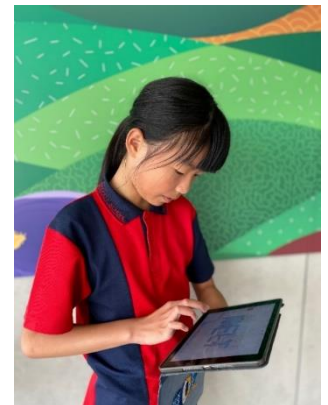
Junior and Senior Band are back up and running with all instruments again after a period of time off. The music being made by both bands is sounding great and it is fantastic to see and hear once again.



Choir is still off for the time being. We will communicate with everyone as soon as possible if guidelines change to allow for choir once again.

In the meantime, enjoy the new school space and I look forward to seeing you all and speaking with you. Mr Whipp

Congratulations to Ivy Lin of Class 6O. Her film ***Melt***, has been selected for The Arts Unit **Film by Online 2020 Festival Series 2** to be screened on Tuesday November 17.



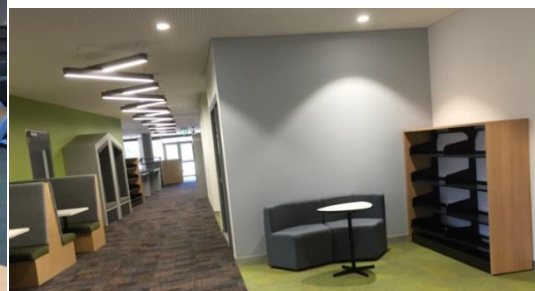


1. Students & staff love APCS new library spaces (**Yakka Taka**). Miss B. Ruschen is the new primary school teacher-librarian whereas Ms Q. Young has become the high school teacher-librarian. Hope everyone enjoys many activities in the **Yakka Taka**.

2. APCS library (**Yakka Taka**) is currently preparing for post-move stocktake. Overdue notices have been distributed to students. Please help us locate missing library resources by following below procedures.



- Let your children return overdue books to **Yakka Taka** when they have a library lesson during Term 4.
- Pay \$6 per book item at APCS front

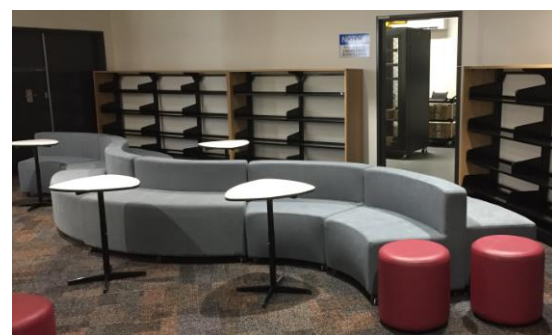


office (**Bunin**) if you are sure that the book is lost (*online payment is available*).

- Send a written message to the school librarians if you are certain that the overdue items were returned prior to the big APCS Move.

3. APCS library (**Yakka Taka**) provides ebook & audio book services via **Wheeler's** ePlatform. Students & their families can borrow these digital resources via APCS library catalogue (Oliver) by clicking on this [instruction](#). All digital resources offered by APCS **Yakka Taka** can be accessed using students' DoE logins.

4. APCS library (**Yakka Taka**) also provides other digital resources such as **Britannica** (*online encyclopedia*); **LinksPlus** & **JSTOR** (*online academic websites & articles*) & **ClickView** (*online educational videos*). [All digital resources](#) offered by APCS **Yakka Taka** can be accessed using students' DoE logins & will assist students improving their academic performance.



## HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

### ENGLISH/Languages Other Than English/Creative and Performing Arts

What an exciting start to the term this has been. Warretah Level 2 is home-base for English, Chinese and Visual Arts and Music, along with Ms Winfield, can be found on Warretah level 1. Not only have we moved into our new learning spaces but we've launched some new learning program initiatives.

For years 7-9 we have begun the **Renaissance Accelerated Reading program**. This has been a huge investment the school has made into furthering the reading growth of our students. There is a parent's guide which is available on the school website. As a parent you can access your child's Accelerated Reader information through the information provided in the letter sent home to all parents/carers of students in years 7, 8 or 9. If you wish further information or did not receive the letter please email the HT English, Miss Ryan at [jane.ryan@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:jane.ryan@det.nsw.edu.au) with your child's name and English class and she will provide you with the Renaissance Home Connect information.

The school also subscribes to Education Perfect and all students in years 7-10 are assigned **weekly grammar homework** from this site along with using unit or text specific activities in class. Students in year 10 who have

yet to meet minimum standards in writing and reading will also be assigned specific activities to support them achieve the standards as they are necessary for the award of a Higher School Certificate.

In November students in year 7 are studying a documentary *'Ocean Blue'* which has an environmental focus whilst year 8 are celebrating the magical and creative power of Shakespeare through a study of *'A Midsummer Night's Dream'*. Year 9 are studying the Australian film *'Bran Nue Day'* and the year 10 term 4 focus is a module called *'Learning to Learn'* which aims to prepare them for years 11 and 12.

Year 12 has begun for the 2021 HSC students and the open planning has enabled students to work collaboratively and comfortably. The English advanced students are studying Orwell's classic *Nineteen Eighty-Four* for the common module Texts and Human Experiences whilst English standard, studies and EAL/D are studying Favel Parrett's poignant Australian novel *Past the Shallows*.



### Interview with William Shakespeare

**Interviewer:** *Allysa Carling*. **Interviewee:** *William Shakespeare*.

*AC: "Well it is good to see you in the flesh. I have always been interested in how your imagination and thought process work during writing your plays. I would like to ask how inspiration comes to you."*

*WS: "During my schooling, we learned about Latin, Roman history and mythology. The classical writers studied in the classroom influenced my plays and poetry. I borrow from*

*various Latin and Greek authors, and adapt stories across all of Europe. Although I do borrow, I do not steal, but make the details my own, combining various plots and adding my own artistic flair. "*

*AC: "I find that extremely interesting, although I would like to know more about the tales that influenced your poetry and plays."*

*WS: "Hamlet is borrowed from an ancient Scandinavian tale - the story of the murder of a Danish ruler, followed by the swift marriage of the widowed queen to the murderous brother, the madness of the prince, and the voyage to England during which the prince alters the papers bearing his death warrant, and avenges his father's killer.*

*Belleforest's History Tragiques I have also borrowed and transformed into a profound examination of morality, privacy, life and death.*

*Wide questioning philosophical questions and intellectual curiosity in Montaigne's Essays would have allied Hamlet with Montaigne. I myself was merely stimulated by his work.*

*Ovid's epic poem, Metamorphoses is by far the biggest influence for my narrative poems and A Midsummer's Dream, although the 'rude' Mechanicals make it have far more of a comedic twist. The far more faithful version to the story is Romeo and Juliet, where mistaken beliefs lead the star-crossed lovers to suicides."*

*AC: "You are an avid reader from what I can tell. Now, a person like you who is influenced by everything he read must have some playwrights who also prove influential. Do you?"*



WS: "As imagination comes forth, we are influenced by everything we read. I have known many playwrights personally, and have also been influenced by them and other aspiring writers. Christopher Marlowe - God rest his soul - developed the use of blank verse to magnificent effect, and portrayed the complex, tragic characters on the stage.

Montaigne, ever the aspiring essayist, has provided me with some of the most creative, dazzling ideas that I have ever explored on the stage and on paper.

Petrarch, fourteenth century poet, has laid the foundation for sonnets, perfecting the fine form and stringing a series of sonnets to substantive sequences."

AC: "I believe that complex and carefully crafted protagonists play an essential part in writing a good play. Not only that, but they make the audience push their imagination to the limits. Tell me about the protagonists that you have created."

WS: "We are only not what we simply say we are, but instead, we are made up of many unknown and conflicting parts. Us humans have a tendency to put ourselves through personal, inner conflict leading to further harm and eventually, self-destruction.

If a character unravels almost immediately, that does not allow the time for self-enquiry and discovery. This teaches us very little, signifying nothing about ourselves. Even though my characters seem dramatized, carefully crafted, and complex, there is not only one of each of them, but many. Hamlet is a prime example of a person so tortured by inner conflicts that he cannot bear to remain as he is. Macbeth's own corruption eventually ends with his severed head.

A character who displays remarkable strength, courage and resilience seems improbable, as it is rare to find a person with these prized attributes. I believe that any strong character has to have vulnerable and blindingly passionate qualities, in order to make the character truly human. Juliet, despite her strength, courage, wit and intelligence, the fallout with Romeo is so sudden and intense, leading to emotional turmoil and impulsive actions."

AC: "Do you believe that love is a fickle thing....?"

WS: Yes, I do. Love is a fickle thing. I believe that there are those who seek it desperately for a lifetime but never meet, and those who trample it beneath unappreciative feet. Love seems to favour the intelligent, witty and fair, but it truly blesses those who are brave enough to dare. As much as love is a blessing, it can make people go irrational, impulsive, blind; the dark, lustful, possessive side of love. Love plays people like a fiddle.

My plays display a wide range of different characters, perspectives, and circumstances. Romeo & Juliet, forbidden love at its most passionate. A Midsummer's Dream, with Helena and Demetrius, Helena's longing to win Demetrius' heart despite all of his wrongdoings; Oberon and Titania, the rage of Oberon due to his inability to control his wife, and Titania and Bottom, the absurdity and madness of love. Hamlet, with him and Ophelia, the possibility of that love that never happened. Macbeth, with him and Lady Macbeth, the murderous lovers. Lastly, Twelfth Night, with Viola, Lady Olivia, Orsino, Antonio and Sebastian, the complexity of love."

AC: "Now, society is strictly divided into social classes, the rules and conduct intricate and complex. What are your thoughts on this sensitive and opinionated subject? Do you have pity for the lowers? Do you believe in the rigid hierarchy of the nobles and royals?"

WS: "My plays focus on the various social classes, from the monarchs and nobles, to the labourers and servants. The lowers, I have to admit, are often the butt of jokes; from the foolish villains to incompetent workers. However, my mere thought on the matter is not much. I have no disgust for the lowers, nor do I have praise for the ruling classes. It's a continual thought. My plays appeal to all."

AC: "That was briefer than I expected."

WS: "Thou are shocked, I see."

AC: "Yes, but very well. Women in our society these days are strictly controlled by men, eerily similar to a puppeteer. What are your thoughts on women's roles in society?"

WS: "It is no secret that women have less freedom than men in Elizabethan society. The social classes have an impact on these women, effectively making them unheard of to the rest.

Women in my plays are often underrepresented. Higher class women are often regarded as "possessions" to their fathers and husbands. Due to their brittle reputations and fragile ego, women need to be kept in check, as men would never accept an unchecked female. These women were often controlled by their husbands or fathers, breeding them into pure-bled ladies.

*Lower class women are still underrepresented, however they are not seen as important as higher-class women, as their status renders them harmless. So, they have that freedom to explore and discover, as much as society allows them to. But women are never truly free."*

AC: *"What are your thoughts about history, and more specifically, about the historical people who you write about in your plays?"*

WS: *"There is a history in all lives, which reveals that has happened in times now and in the past. If thou study that history, thou can foretell what lies ahead with some accuracy. The evil that all do lies before them, often lies within the past.*

*That history leads men to commit unspeakable things, yet the seeds of these things to come are often intertwined with the seeds of what already happened.*

*History teaches us themes that are still relevant to us now, no matter if these tales are told through mighty kings, noble knights, murderous royals, wars and bloodshed.*

*An example of a historical character who displays relevant themes. King Henry IV, King of all England and father of Prince Henry, his heir to the throne. A guilt-stricken king, Richard's II death troubles his conscience as rebellion is brewing. The barest elements of the first lines:*

*Yea, there thou mak'st sad and mak'st sin*

*In envy that my Lord Northumberland*

*Should be the father to so blest a son -*

*A son who is in the theme of honour's tongue.*

*Whilst I by looking at the praise of him*

*See riot and dishonour on his brow*

*Of my young Harry.*

*It is enough to establish Henry's worried and exhausted condition; his troubled and complex mind. I believe that King Henry IV is a historical figure who displays remarkable resilience, able to deal with his wayward son, his unstable reign, whilst fighting open rebellion against the French. He is a prime example of someone who is decisive, accountable and wise."*

AC: *"Astonishing. Now being playwright is an unstable job, and not a route many would follow, as in most cases, it does not give financial success. What are the pressures for you?"*

WS: *"Theatre is a popular source of entertainment, sought after by all. It is our duty to provide entertainment to the flocking crowds, and to be able to deliver the highest quality of entertainment.*

*Due to these facts, being a playwright demands you to give your attention to writing, examining every imperfection and detail. This taxing occupation demands you to write your mind. To be honest in every aspect and to hone the rush of creative thoughts and ideas.*

*Most importantly, it requires thou to have self-motivation. To write and write freely, to express with compassion and not let critique wear thou down, draining your self-esteem and targeting thy insecurities. Playwrights, such as myself, are haunted by the prospect that they are not good, talented, or hard working enough. That sudden rush to hold ourselves back, seems to trouble our minds whenever we put pen to paper."*

AC: *"Now this question is interpreted by many people, and never one answer is the same as another. What are your thoughts on the value of life?"*

WS: *"The fragility of life. A miracle, a blessing, a gift, yet tedious, harsh, unforgiving. Our life, a tangled yarn of good and ill intertwined. The unrelenting pace that moves on, whether unfulfilled dreams and promises, regrets, loss and pain render you incapable to keep up. A walking shadow, full of senseless rage and hate, meaning nothing.*

*Yet, life's too short for us to be dwelling. That rush of adrenaline, intertwined with palpable joy and exhilaration, is worth craving, worth fighting to feel. The part after the senseless battle, the peace, is worth treasuring, no matter if we tumble into those sweet, tempting sins time and time again. We are not absolute, and if we all were, life would be a worn-down tale. I cannot speak for the lives of others, as gladly as I am able to about my own."*

AC: *"Thank you, for all you have answered today. I wish you well upon your journeys, whatever they may entail or be."*

WS: *"It was my pleasure."*



## Interviewing Julius Caesar

**Jeremy:** Hello everyone! Welcome back to another show of The Jeremy Show. I'm your host Jeremy Lim and presenting today's show.. let's give a round of applause for.... Julius Caesar!

**Julius Caesar:** \*Waves and sits down\*

**Jeremy:** Ave, Caesar. Quite the life you lived. Well, I mean, until those senators stabbed you at the ides of mar-

**Julius Caesar:** Indeed! They were horrible, ruthless, green-eyed crooks. And to think Brutus, whom I loved as a friend, a brother, could listen to them? Well, I don't blame him, after all that Cassius manipulated him!

However, Mark Antony is quite the cunning one. Using their own words against them, that was quite the play and serves them right!

**Jeremy:** Alright Caesar, sit down, sit down. I'll start with some pretty straightforward questions. In my time, I've heard you were quite popular amongst the people. How did this come to be?

**Julius Caesar:** Well, I don't intend to brag or anything, but it might have had something to do with my skills as a military officer - dominating the battlefield and expanding land for the republic. However, I believe most of it may come from me stripping away senators who were indulged by bribery and corruption, by the interests of the commoners, which I could completely relate to.

**Jeremy:** That's quite thoughtful of you, but moving on, I heard you were kidnapped by some pirates, is this true?

**Julius Caesar:** I could remember that as if it were yesterday but here's how it went. I set off from Rome, headed to the Aegean Island of Rhodes to study with a fellow Greek Rhetorician, Apollonius. Here's the funny bit. On my way there, our ship was hijacked by some fellow buccaneers. Having been captured by them, they requested a ransom fee which was insultingly low. I demanded a greater fee and from there I was free. But that's not all, I sought revenge by swiftly recruiting groups of ships to hunt them down and soon, executing them.

**Jeremy:** I've got goosebumps! But all dramatic things aside, let's talk about your love life. It was quite complicated I heard.

**Julius Caesar:** After having 3 different relationships, I couldn't have agreed with you more. I married Cornelia when I was still a teenager, and things began to go complicated from there. I'll call him Sulla, Sulla was the general of Rome during my time with Cornelia. He declared that anyone who opposed him would be ordered the execution. My father in law in fact did, causing Sulla to force a divorce with my wife, but I refused. I knew this would have cost me my life, but I fled and returned, having to pay a huge bribe, leaving me with little to no money left. Sadly, my wife died and so I remarried to Sulla's Granddaughter Pompeia, I quickly divorced her and married to Calpurnia until my death.

**Jeremy:** Brrrrr, Tragic! Going along, I've been thinking about some questions but I can't think of one lately. How about I ask the audience?

**Jeremy:** Hey, everyone in the crowd. Give us some questions!

**Crowd:** Your interaction with Cleopatra!

**Julius Caesar:** Ah yes... So, I went out to Egypt to track down a rival of mine back in Rome, General Pompey. While I was there, I met Cleopatra, having her own civil war with her little brother. I ordered them both to visit me to settle their feud once and for all. However, Co-Ruler Ptolemy XIII stopped Cleopatra in her tracks, forcing her to smuggle herself inside a laundry bag!

**Jeremy:** I smell a little agent movie in the making, haha. Ahem-, Ahem- so uh- "Veni, Vidi, Vici" could you explain what it means?

**Julius Caesar:** My yet most famous speech. "Veni, Vidi, Vici" simply translates to "I came, I saw, I conquered" in the latin language. I referred to this after my victorious battle against the turks.

**Jeremy:** I'm running out of questions yet again. Aha, just thought of one! Who was your most fearsome adversary?

**Julius Caesar:** Great Question! Out of all of them, I'd have to say the Belgians were by far my greatest opponent. Those gaulics were one tough nut to crack if i'd say so myself. You could read all about those fierce warriors in the book I wrote. I could tell everyone about how we won against the Gaulish Chieftain and how I defeated Vercingetorix.

**Jeremy:** We're just about to wrap things up. Is there anything you might wanna ask to the people of the future?

**Julius Caesar:** Definitely! Tell them to acknowledge me as much as they can and continue they're ways of teaching me in what I've heard as in "History". I'm certain that my name will still be remembered and my vast amount of achievements. But on top of that, I'd like to thank Jeremy for inviting me here today and everyone out there who's listening!

**Jeremy:** That just about wraps things up. Everyone gave a round of applause to Julius Caesar!

The following piece of writing is by a Year 12 student who has completed her HSC through the Life Skills stream, and has only been learning English for 2 and a half years. Yaqi's sweet personality really shines in this piece. We wish Yaqi well in her design studies next year! Ms Laura Medway (English/EALD)

### **My Warm Childhood**

Yaqi Liu

My childhood memories are way too sweet; sweet and beautiful. One of the people who made it sweet was my grandfather on my mother's side.

Flowers and grass, leaves falling from trees, meteors shooting across the milky way. Or like moonlight reflected in a lake, a breeze blew across the lake, the ripples spread gently.

He would tell stories to me and my sister, fairytales and his life story. Grimm's fairy tales and Chinese fables, Grandfather would tell us these stories when we took a nap with the chirping of the grasshoppers outside the window.

On sunny days, we would play games in the park. While we skateboarded and jumped rope, he would sit in the sun. When my sister and I fought he would stop us even when we were pretend-fighting.

He was in the habit of smoking, but he never smoked in front of us. He always smoked downstairs, so there was always a faint smell of smoke on Grandfather.

We had seen meteors in the park before, beautiful things are always fleeting, time is too short. It is the same with life.

One day in 2015, Grandfather looked like the shooting star we had seen that day. Some things just happen so suddenly. No one can anticipate them, and no one can escape it. Life is too fragile.

These will be memories, he will live in our memories.

### **VISUAL ARTS**

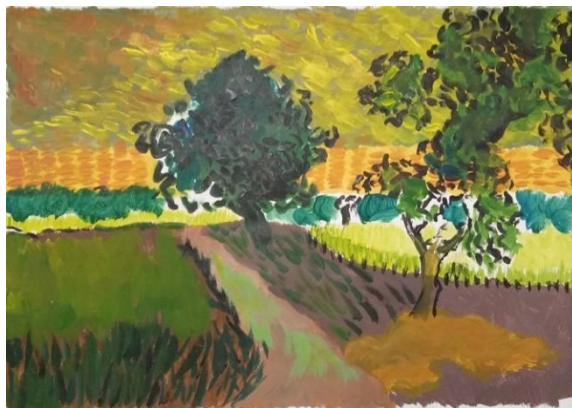
In Visual Arts, students had a busy Term 3 have created some very impressive work.



Year 7 spent several lessons creating studies of landscape paintings by artists including Albert Namatjira, Edvard Munch, Brett Whiteley and Vincent van Gogh. They have been practising and developing the skills they will need to complete their own landscapes this term – we can't wait to see their finished works!



Yu Man Y.



Emma P.



Rafi D.



Hosnik K.



Tommy W.

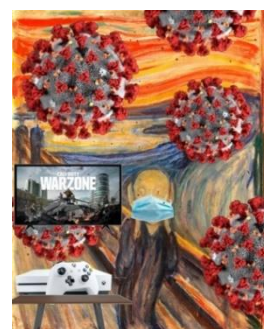
Year 8, meanwhile, have completed their digital collages representing the surreal experience of COVID-19 isolation. As far as artistic representations of 2020 go, we think they're pretty hard to beat ...



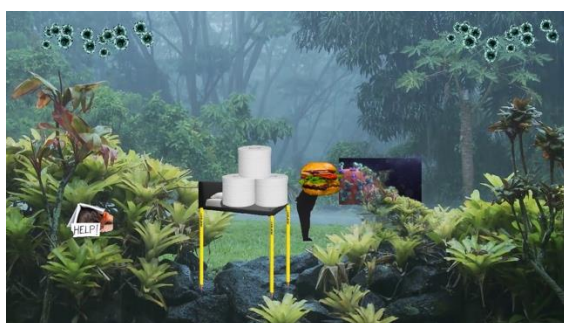
Jethro T.



Merry Y.



Jonathan S.



Kelly M.



Matthew J.



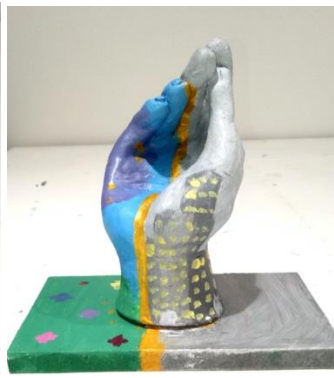
Year 9 have created some stunning representations of their identities in clay sculptures of their hands, which survived the move to the new school wrapped in layers of newspaper and bubble wrap:



Klara K.



Aliyah A.

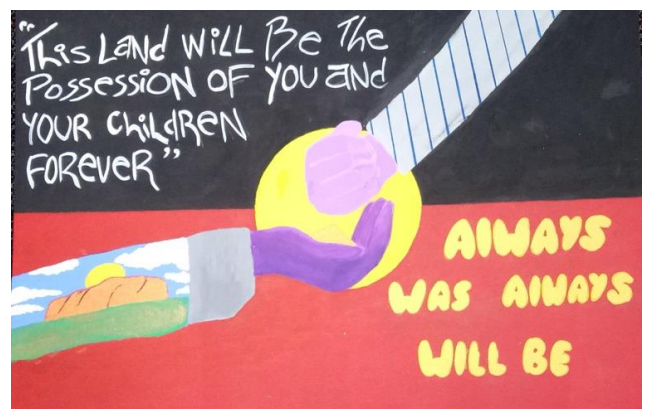


Yu Tong L.

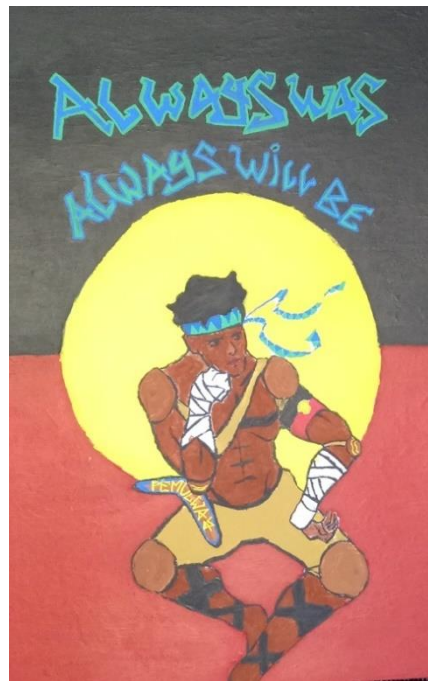
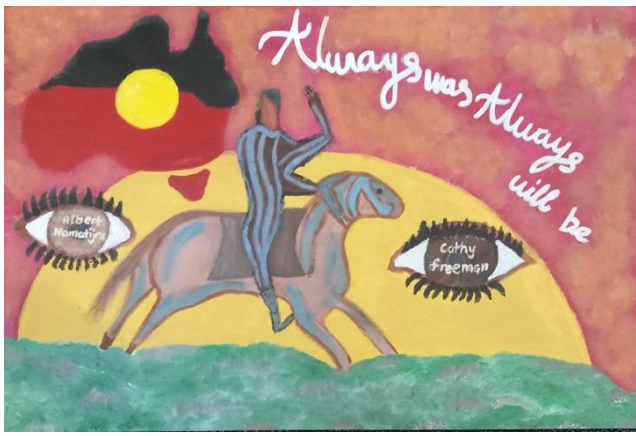


Works by: Kayla R., Trey L., Jeremy W., Latrell M. Pharrell M., Hunter K., Namuun C., Klara K., Mariia B., Malila H., Yu Tong L., Alex R., Aliyah A., Alison R.

Year 10 have outdone themselves with their group street art-inspired paintings representing this year's NAIDOC theme: "Always Was, Always Will Be."







Works by: Florance D., Nakyah M., Jessie W., Eve S., Racquel R., Ainsley R. Bella C., Mariam I., Lawrence N., Sarah I., Megan D., Katlyn C., Tanya A., Sally W., Mam B., Rassia L., Siavana V., Tim B., Rhythm H.

Year 11 have now transitioned to Year 12, and have taken their first steps on the exciting and challenging journey of developing their own HSC Bodies of Work. This time next year they will be in the same place as Ms O'Toole's class of 2020, who have now completed and submitted their Bodies of Work *and* sat their HSC exam – congratulations Year 12! They have produced some extraordinary artworks in a very challenging year, and we are all very proud of them.

## HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC NEWS

High school classes have settled into our new music space in the Waretah building. Year 7 students are exploring the Twelve Bar Blues on tuned percussion, guitars and keyboards in the main classroom.





The performing arts area also has two Session Rooms. These are small rooms set up with a variety of instruments, providing flexibility during class time. Small groups of students can work independently in the Session Rooms whilst still being actively supervised. This is of particular benefit for Stage 5 and 6 music students who may be working on a wide variety of performance tasks at one time.

The Session Rooms are also bookable spaces for lunch time practice or jam sessions. They have proved extremely popular so far this term with students from all year groups.



## **HUMAN SOCIETY IN ITS ENVIRONMENT (HSIE)**

### **Economics**

Y12 Economics are enjoying the presentation space by watching the latest developments in Global issues and applying their analytical skills to economic theories. The students enjoy class discussions and their engagement is shown through higher order thinking questions. Lately we've been looking at China's plans to switch to renewable energy generation and its impact on Australia, the region and the global economy.

### **Business Studies**

Year 12 Business Studies have started to look at the role of an operations manager and how they are influenced by external factors, such as legislation and government regulations. We have used McDonald's Australia as a business case study and will investigate how the four key business functions of, operations, human resources, finance and marketing are interdependent. The students have thoroughly enjoyed the new learning hubs as they allow for meaningful and engaging lessons through the break out spaces and presentation rooms.

### **Year 9 Commerce**

9Comm has arrived in our beautiful new area upstairs in the Wautangal building ready to focus on their independence, both in and out of school. While teaching about our economy for some of the term, we are also focusing on the topic "towards independence"; which allows students to consider the costs of living out of home and budgeting for things they want in life.



## Year 9 Geography

Year 9 has handled the move to the Wautangal building very well and are now able to take notice of the numerous built up areas around our school as we study the topic of sustainable cities. Our focus is on the process of urbanisation and the megacities of Asia; some students have been able to share personal stories of their experiences in other cities around the world. We have been able to utilise the presentation and study spaces as well as accommodate different paths to learning in the wonderful new area. The HSIE space is thriving!

## Year 8 Geography

All the year 8 classes have adapted very well to their new learning spaces and have been showing respect to others. They have all followed the HSIE PBL values by putting their bags on the bag hooks (leaving phones and earphones in their bags). Year 8 have begun a new topic in Geography 'Interconnections'. We have started off exploring our personal connections with the world and are now studying the various impacts in which mass tourism has on different countries such as Kenya, Bhutan and Thailand. We have been able to experience a variety of learning areas and students have enjoyed using the open learning areas for collaborative tasks. Here is some sample work



### Guangzhou - China



It is a very touristy city within Guangdong, its main purpose within China is to create a trading hub/economical place with modern infrastructure. There are many tourist attractions and many people from the world coming to Guangzhou to do business. There is 13,302,000 currently living within Guangzhou and the Premier of China is President Xi Jinping. There are many tourist attractions such as the Baiyun Mountains and the Canton Tower. Guangzhou's main language is Cantonese and Dialects of Cantonese.

Sam L., 8L



City Name: Tokyo

Country Name: Japan

What is it famous for: Tokyo is known for its amazing street fashion, street food and especially known for their anime and Shibuya crossing.

Language that is spoken there: Standard Japanese

Population of the city: 9.273million in 2015.  
Approximately 13.82million in 2018.

Ariunzul 8L

## Ancient History

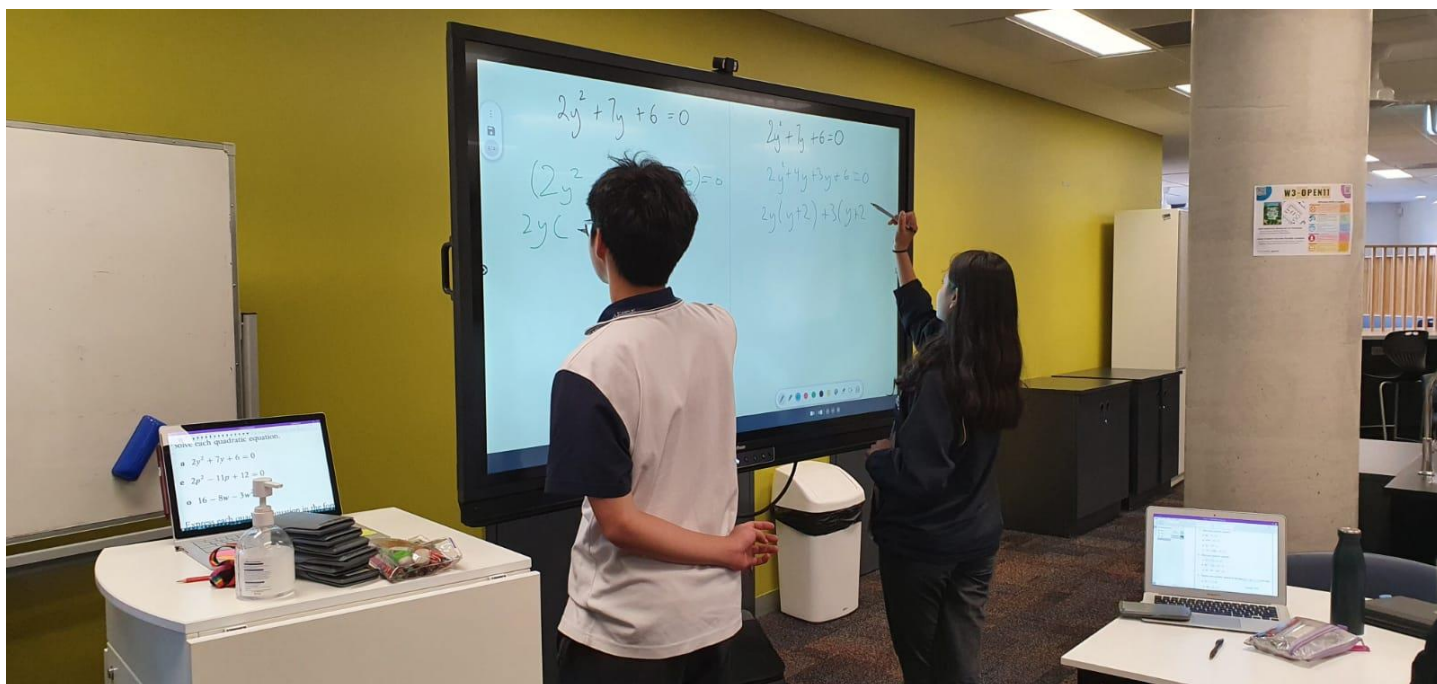
The new Year 12 Ancient History students are loving the new space and taking full advantage to showcase artefacts from Minoan Crete. The new space is slowly being covered in frescoes, linear A and B tablets, images of "palaces" and "thrones" that support students in source analysis and historical debate.

## MATHEMATICS

It is pleasing to see students both juniors and seniors settling well into the new mathematics spaces.

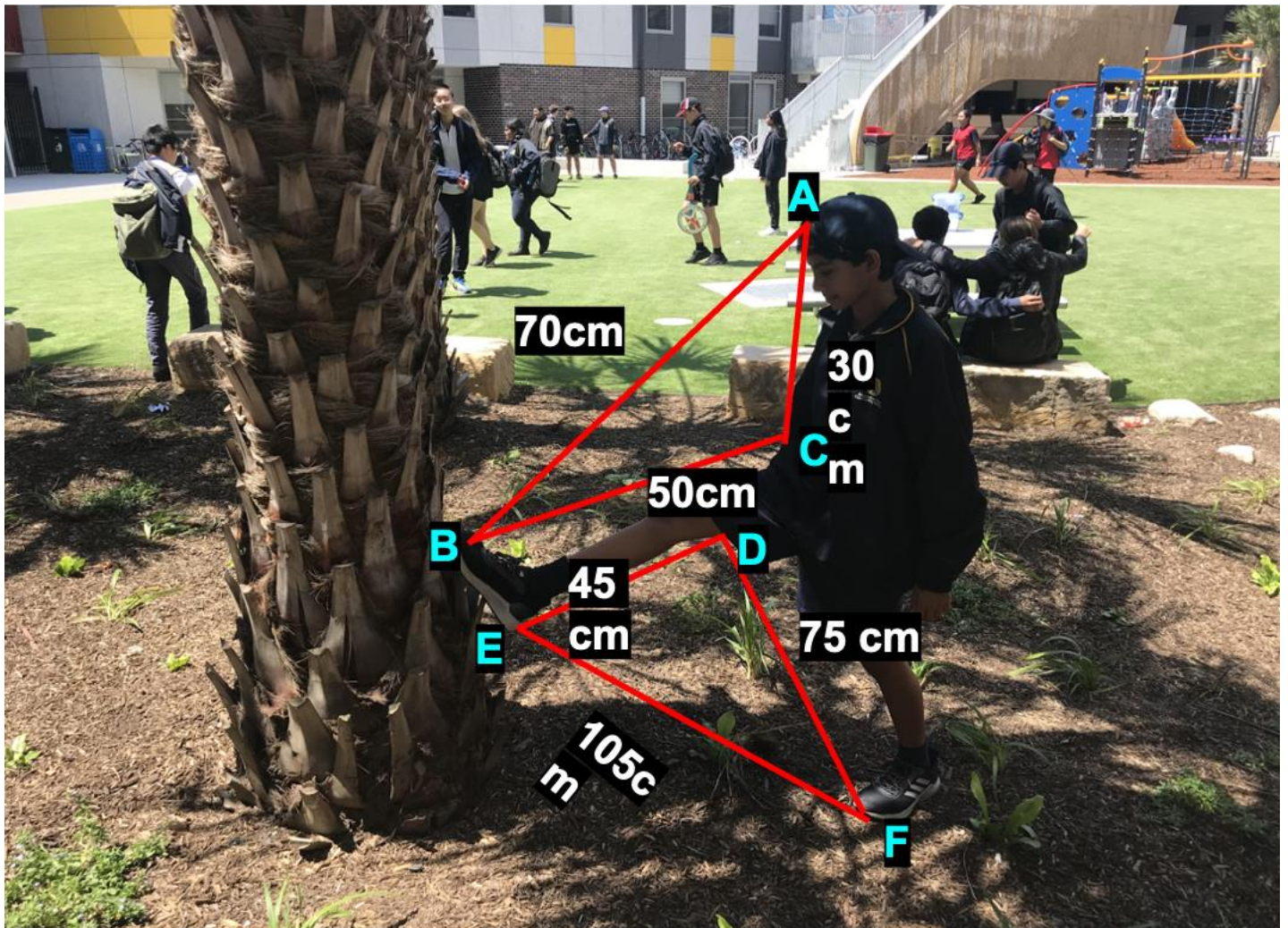


The variety of spaces, improved technology and breakout spaces allow students to more easily collaborate in their learning and develop deeper understanding of concepts.





Students have also taken opportunities to use the improved surroundings to develop different ways of demonstrating their understanding.



The more spacious mathematics area allows teachers to consider different and varied pedagogical approaches that better facilitate student learning and understanding.

For further practice and revision of concepts in mathematics at home and at school all students have access to an online education tool called Education Perfect. Seniors mathematics students also have access to the Edrolo website.

Given the difficulty year 12 students have faced this year study days during the school holidays and study sessions after school were made available for the 2020 year 12 mathematics cohort. We wish them the very best in their exams and their future endeavours.

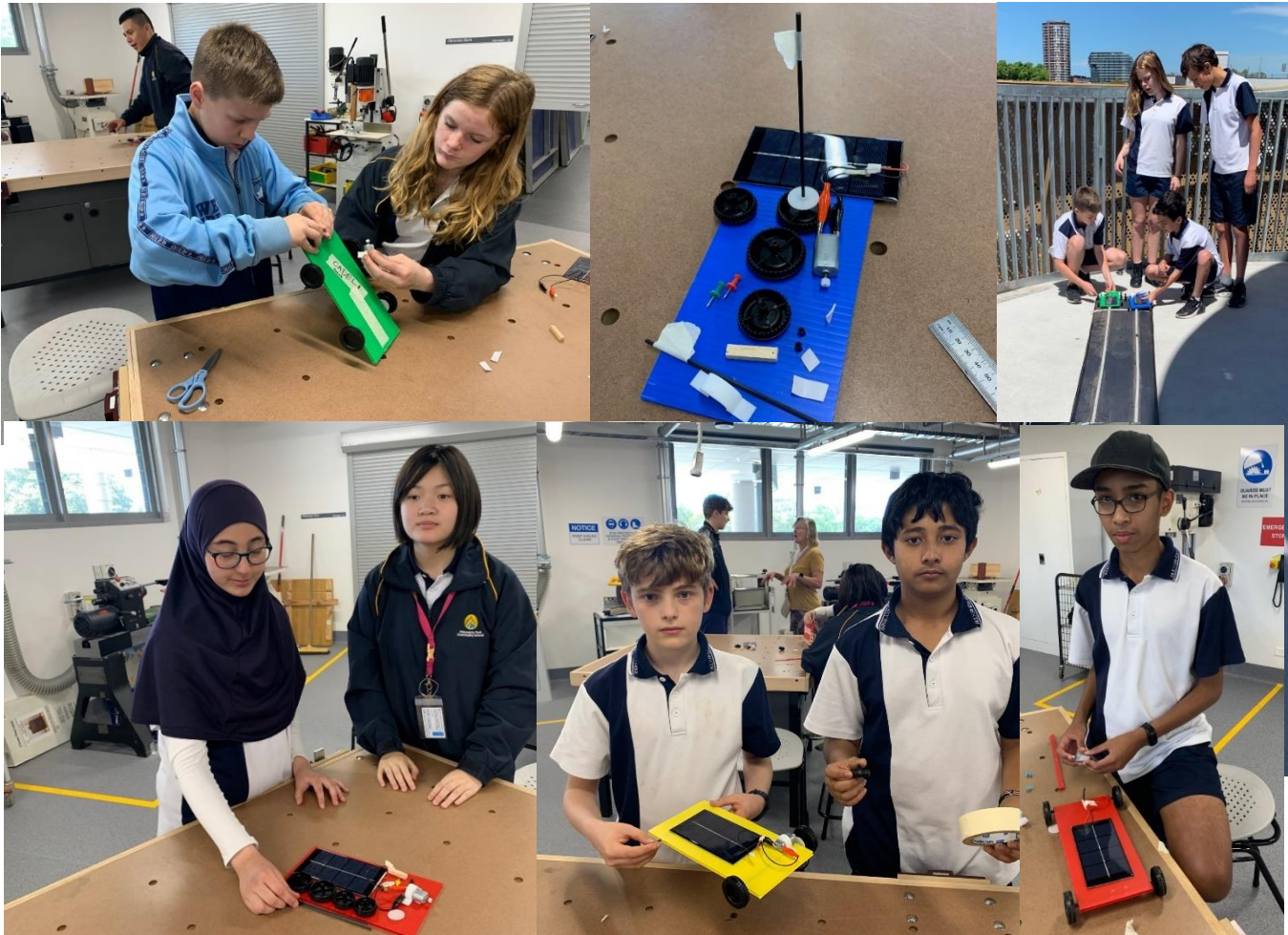


## SCIENCE and MANDATORY TECHNOLOGY

### Stage 4 Technology Mandatory - Solar car challenge

Working in teams of 2 students must design and construct a solar car that has to be durable and fast.

When finished and all testing and evaluating is complete, teams will challenge one another to see who has the fastest car to race down the 20m track.



## Agriculture

The students have been excited to be working and planting in the Maani area. It is an amazing set up and the students have found the area relaxing, a great opportunity to work in an outdoor learning environment.

Year 10 students have been planting fruit trees and native bush tucker. Including, passionfruit, finger limes, Lemon myrtle, mango, pomegranate, mulberry, Lemon.

Year 7 have been planting summer harvest vegetables and herbs. Tomato, carrot, corn, chilli, capsicum, eggplant, spinach, basil, lemon grass,



Year 8 students have been assisting with the animal husbandry of the chickens, moving them from the old pen to the new pen, feeding, watering and collecting eggs.



## WELLBEING AND CAREERS NEWS KICKSTART YEAR 12

Welcome back to all students, parents, carers and community member to our new school. It's an action-packed term which was

kicked off with our annual "Kick Start Year 12" day. This event is timetabled

for the first week of term 4 and is designed to welcome the Year 11 students into Year 12.



We hosted the event in the Yakka Taka amphitheatre theatre and had speakers from Head Space, UAC and a motivational speaker. Ms Hawkins and I also presented on study skills tips.

The psychologist from Head Space spoke about balance and caring for themselves over the next 12 months. She also gave them some valuable strategies and spoke about the importance of diet, sleep and rest.

Our UAC presenter gave the students information about their university applications next year and explained the role and purpose of the ATAR in calculating entry into university. She briefly explained the scholarships, early entry schemes and equal access schemes available through the UAC website.

## DREAM CONNECTIONS

I'm excited over the opportunities on offer this term for our younger students as well. All this term our ATSI girls from Years 7 & 8 are participating in a program designed to improve their knowledge and liking for STEM subjects. Using astronomy, girls will learn about the connections between their cultures and the western science of astronomy.



## BOYS TO MEN

This program is specifically designed for our ATSI boys in High School to help them with their personal and professional development. The program is being delivered by the Tribal Warrior Association and one of our old boys, Brendan Williams, is co-presenting. Brendan spent many years playing Rugby Union and has represented Australia in the Commonwealth Games. The



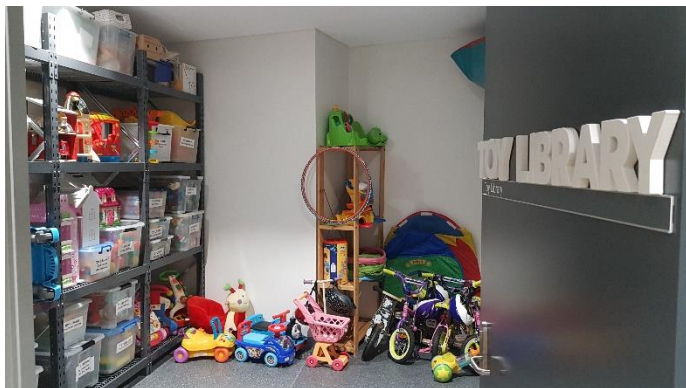
workshops are on different topics each week and vary from careers and budgeting to responsibility as an adult and man.

Both these programs run for an hour and a half on Tuesdays.

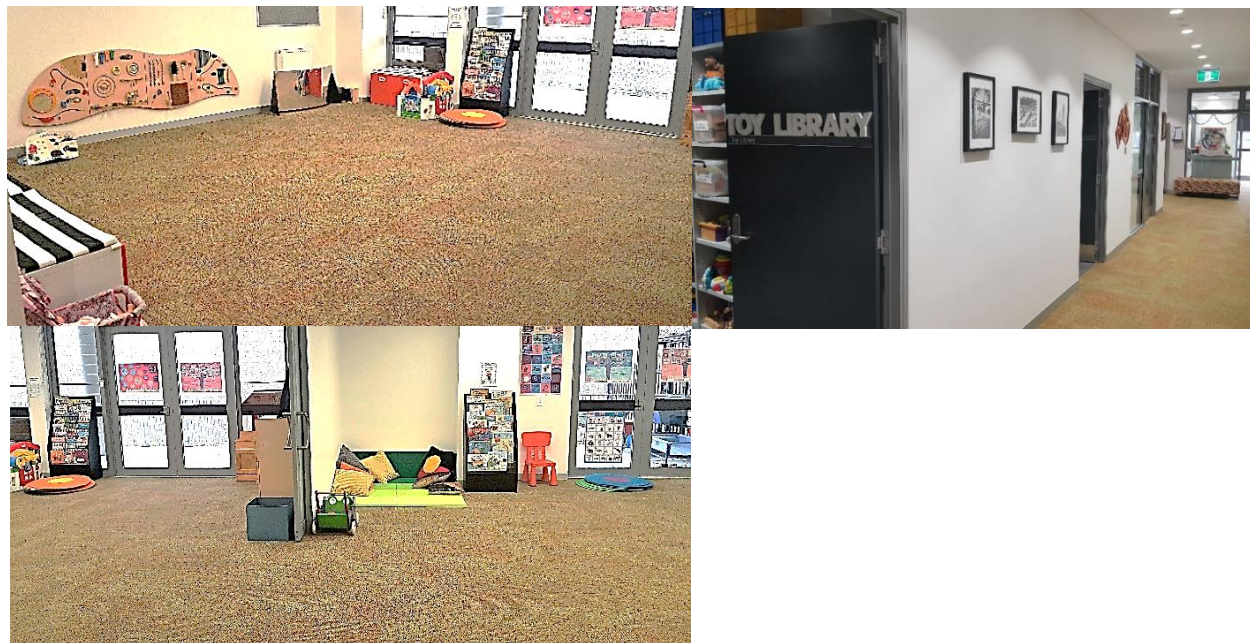
Finally, Year 7 will get the opportunity to work with some the University of Western Sydney and some sportsmen from the Giants AFL team. This workshop coming up on the 26<sup>th</sup> November will highlight the importance and roles science plays in sport. Students will have lots of fun activities to complete in the workshop and we look forward to it.

## EORAWĀGO – NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Community Centre staff moved into the new Centre during the October school holidays and have settled into the space comfortably. The holidays were spent unpacking and sorting to create a welcoming space for our local families. The Early Childhood Nurses have been running their clinics and doing Zoom new parents groups each week. Jo has been keeping in contact with families through the Alex Park Community Playgroup Facebook group. A Kindergarten 2021 Facebook group has also been set up for families whose children are enrolled for Kindergarten 2021 and Transition Activity Packs have been made available to the Kindy 2021 children. The Toy Library is currently open and if families want to borrow toys they simply contact Jo to book in a time to visit. We hope to be restarting some of our smaller playgroups with a booking system and COVID safe approach. More information about this will be posted on the Alex Park Community Facebook group soon. The Gomberee language name for the new Community Centre is Eorawāgo meaning “for the people”. Here are some photos of our beautiful new Community Centre.







## CAMP AUSTRALIA



Life Skills  
Creative Time  
New Experiences  
Construction & Manipulative Play  
Outdoor Play Time  
Homework & Quiet Time

To book, visit:  
[www.campaustralia.com.au](http://www.campaustralia.com.au)  
or call 1300 105 343

### Welcome to Camp Australia's Pocolbee Room!

There have been many big changes at Alexandria Park Community School as we have moved into our brand new school. We at Camp Australia have been busy setting up our new environment on the ground floor of the Pocolbee building to create inviting and engaging spaces for children to play, connect and grow. With the inclusion of construction zones, multiple comfortable reading areas, imaginative play spaces, board game tables, an arts and crafts room, sensory room, a homework room, physical movement spaces and more, there are opportunities to have fun for each and every child!

If you would like to see our new environment and some of the activities our children participate in, please free to drop by and meet our friendly team.



Safety • Meaningful • Innovative • Leadership • Education

we make kids smile



# Alexandria Park Community School

**Address:** 9-13 Park Road ALEXANDRIA NSW 2015

**Phone:** 0450 776 374 **Program Times:** 06:45 am - 06:00 pm

<b>THU</b> 17 DEC	<b>SUPERHERO DAY!</b>		<b>FRI</b> 18 DEC	<b>CINEMA ANIMATED</b>	
Be a superhero for the day and get imaginative with creative play.			Become an 1800's filmmaker as you make your own illusions with a zoetrope. We'll get into the movie magic spirit and make some popcorn and a refreshing sparkle drink while we watch our clips.		
Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED	Full Fee \$84.21   After Max. CCS* \$12.63		 INCURSION
<b>MON</b> 21 DEC	<b>FESTIVE CELEBRATIONS</b>		<b>TUE</b> 22 DEC	<b>BOARD GAMES GALORE</b>	
Get into the festive spirit to make the end of year celebrations come to life.			Get back to basics with some classic board games!		
Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED	Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED
<b>WED</b> 23 DEC	<b>TRAVELS TO INDIA</b>		<b>THU</b> 24 DEC	<b>BOOK SHOW AND TELL</b>	
Get into the Indian spirit with some spectacular traditions as we create our rangoli window art, prepare a chickpea curry, drink a lassi and apply some henna!			Bring in your favourite book to share with others and get ready to learn about others.		
Full Fee \$84.21   After Max. CCS* \$12.63		 INCURSION	Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED
<b>MON</b> 04 JAN	<b>IN THE JUNGLE</b>		<b>TUE</b> 05 JAN	<b>NEON CREATIONS</b>	
It's a Jungle themed day. Dress for the occasion and deck out the service with all things jungle related.			Tap into your artistic powers to create your own neon light frame while learning how neon lights work. You will also do a collaborative neon light project for your Holiday Club space!		
Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED	Full Fee \$84.21   After Max. CCS* \$12.63		 INCURSION
<b>WED</b> 06 JAN	<b>HANDS-ON ART</b>		<b>THU</b> 07 JAN	<b>MOVIE MANIA WITH PETER RABBIT 2: THE RUNAWAY AT EVENT CINEMAS</b>	
Getting messy with art is so much fun!			Peter Rabbit is back on the big screen so get comfy and sit back to follow his adventures. Note: Please arrive by 8:45am.		
Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00		 CLUB BASED	Full Fee \$100.21   After Max. CCS* \$15.03		 EXCURSION



<b>FRI</b> <b>08 JAN</b> <b>MAGICAL MYSTERY MUSINGS</b> Head into a magical mystery world.  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>		<b>MON</b> <b>11 JAN</b> <b>SPORTS CARNIVAL</b> Get your sports gear on, we're having an active adventure day! Create an obstacle course, play some fun games, including water games! Bring a towel and a change of clothes.  <b>Full Fee \$84.21   After Max. CCS* \$12.63</b>	
<b>TUE</b> <b>12 JAN</b> <b>SPLASHTASTIC FUN!</b> Beat the heat this summer with some splashtastic fun and we form teams for challenge and battle games that will leave you drenched! Note: Please bring a towel and change of clothes.  <b>Full Fee \$87.71   After Max. CCS* \$13.15</b>		<b>WED</b> <b>13 JAN</b> <b>SCIENCE SPECTACULAR AT SCIENCE SPACE</b> Visit Science Space for an impressive science experience. Note: Please arrive by 8:45am.  <b>Full Fee \$99.21   After Max. CCS* \$14.88</b>	
<b>THU</b> <b>14 JAN</b> <b>BEE-HIVE</b> BzzBzz! Bees are super important to the world around us so we dedicate this day to them!  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>		<b>FRI</b> <b>15 JAN</b> <b>KARAOKE PARTY!</b> Get set for a summer holiday to remember with the best karaoke! Bring your singing voice and your dancing shoes as we pick up the microphone and dance along!  <b>Full Fee \$83.71   After Max. CCS* \$12.55</b>	
<b>MON</b> <b>18 JAN</b> <b>FANTASY DREAMING</b> Dress up as your favourite fantasy character and join us for some fun fantasy activities!  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>		<b>TUE</b> <b>19 JAN</b> <b>STRIKE! AT ZONE BOWLING</b> Roll on in as we head tenpin bowling. Leave nothing to spare, as you aim for 12 strikes! How will your pins fall? Note: Please arrive by 8:45am.  <b>Full Fee \$100.21   After Max. CCS* \$15.03</b>	
<b>WED</b> <b>20 JAN</b> <b>SCIENCE IS MAGIC</b> They say that magic is just unexplained science. Pass a coin through a rubber sheet, execute the famous water suspension trick and more! You'll also get your own lab glasses and bag of tricks!  <b>Full Fee \$84.71   After Max. CCS* \$12.70</b>		<b>THU</b> <b>21 JAN</b> <b>SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW</b> Transform old items and make them something to treasure all over again!  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>	

<b>FRI</b> <b>22 JAN</b> <b>AFTERNOON TEA TIME</b> Get ready for some extra energy in your day as we prepare energy balls and relax with an iced tea drink for afternoon tea, then learn to design a miniature paper umbrella.  <b>Full Fee \$84.21   After Max. CCS* \$12.63</b>		<b>MON</b> <b>25 JAN</b> <b>AUSSIE, AUSSIE, AUSSIE!</b> Let's celebrate Australia Day with Aussie themed activities.  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>	
<b>WED</b> <b>27 JAN</b> <b>GLOBETROTTERS</b> Travel around the world and visit different countries on your wish list.  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>		<b>THU</b> <b>28 JAN</b> <b>IT'S TRIVIA TIME!</b> It's time for some tricky trivia. Get your brains working as we get into groups and take turns to come up with questions and answer them!  <b>Full Fee \$66.71   After Max. CCS* \$10.00</b>	



## Nutrition Snippet

### MEAT-FREE MONDAY.

Get your family having more veg by making Monday 'Meat-free'.



Try these meat-free meals:

- [Mushroom, spinach and lentil lasagne](#)
- [Green frittata](#)
- [Eggplant tagine](#)

Any leftovers can be used in the lunch box the next day!

[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



Cancer Council  
Healthy Lunch Box

## Healthy Lunch Box website

A one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about packing a healthy lunch box.



### Need help packing a lunch box?

Check out our new [online presentation](#) that will show you how easy it can be to pack a healthy lunch box that your kids will love to eat!

For recipes, tips and more visit:

[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



Cancer Council  
Healthy Lunch Box



- Picnic Area
- Bike Track
- Ninja Course
- Undercover Deck
- Toilet Facilities
- Onsite Parking
- BBQ available for hire



### Bridge Road School Outdoor Space for Hire

More information can be found on the [Bridge Road School website](#) or check out our Forest aerial video on [facebook](#)

This is the perfect open space area for your next family get together, child's birthday party or social gathering.

This hidden garden sanctuary is nestled behind Camperdown Oval and features a bike track, ninja obstacle course, undercover deck, bbq and picnic area.

Onsite parking and toilets available.



For further information or arrange a booking please contact Bridge Rd School on 9519 8389



