Kingsgrove North High School

The Way North

Our Community Newsletter No. 1, 2015

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write my first column as the new Principal of Kingsgrove North High School.

Before I begin, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking and acknowledging Mr. Ffrench for the wonderful work he has done over the past year leading the school and for his warm welcome and support. I would also like to acknowledge Ms. Bilali and all the staff who have also welcomed me to the school.

I am very pleased to have been given the opportunity of leading the school but at the same time to work with two very experienced and supportive Deputies and the school executive. While my time at the school has only been a short one I have also had the opportunity of speaking and meeting a large number of students and I have been impressed with the way in which they have spoken to me and taken the time to introduce themselves and welcome me as well.

The next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 11th May. I will be at the meeting to detail some of the projects that I hope to implement in the school as well as my plans and where I see the school heading over the next three years. I hope to see as many parents as possible at the meeting and I encourage you to get involved in the school. It is only with more community support that we can work together and provide better facilities, resources and learning outcomes for our students.

There are a number of areas that I will be focusing on but two in particular will take priority, the school environment and what we can do to improve the school, both inside and outside and more importantly a focus on teaching and learning in the classroom.

One of the first tasks that I will be undertaking this term is the development of a values platform. This will be done in consultation with staff, students and parents and it will be our identity and what we as a school represent and stand for.

Over the period of this term, I will also be visiting our feeder schools and introduce myself to the community. I know Ms. Bilali has already been very active and developed excellent relationships with our feeder schools with a number of projects already running.

Term 2 is up and running and students should be now settled and working hard, it is an important time for all years but especially students in year 11 who are into their second term of the preliminary course and year 12 who only have two terms left. Ensuring that all assessment tasks are not only completed on time but also submitted to a high standard is important. Students who have received N determination letters need to ensure any outstanding work is completed and submitted.

Finally I look forward to a long and successful stay and working with the whole school community to continue to build on the many programs and projects that are already in place, and make Kingsgrove North High School the first destination for students when choosing a school.

Angelo Stasos
Principal
Welcome!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new additions to the Mathematics staffroom – Mr Steve Poulos and Ms Emma Murphy. Both teachers have worked previously in the Corporate World and bring a wealth of knowledge, particularly technology, to our Faculty. They are replacing Ms Iosifidis, who gained the position of Head Teacher Mathematics at St George Girls High School through merit selection, and Mr Marshan. Both Mr Poulos and Ms Murphy had the opportunity to attend the Year 10 and Year 7 camps respectively. They enjoyed themselves, were great role models and gained an insight into student interactions.

It has been a hectic start to the year with Year 7 sitting for a Numeracy exam. This allowed us to identify students that need to further develop their basic skills. It is extremely important that all students know their “Times Tables” and can recall them quickly. Parents can help their students by asking them to recite them while they are helping out at home. Tables, and their instant recall, assist students to understand and develop in other areas of Mathematics. Year 7 also participated in some fun activities including Problem Solving Challenges, Jeopardy, Model Making and Directed Number Cricket. They will soon be retested on their fluency with numbers to see if they have been listening to their teachers and doing their homework.

A reminder to all parents, every student requires their own calculator. Year 7 will be using theirs shortly and all other years need theirs now. If you missed the sales, the front office has them for sale at the cheapest price around, $25. It is requested that all students use a Casio calculator.

Year 9 have been sorted into the 3 levels of Mathematics according to their results and teacher’s input. It is hoped that students will succeed their level of Mathematics. They will all sit for common exams and it will be possible to move some students if they show great improvement.

Year 10 will be awarded their ROSA in Mathematics when they demonstrate diligence (complete all homework and work cooperatively with their peers and teachers). These grades will then be used to determine their pathway in Senior School.

Year 11 students are working hard to achieve their Extension 1 Mathematics course. It is hoped that they will continue to meet the challenges of this course and enjoy exploring new concepts. Some of these students will progress to Extension 2 in Year 12.

We have a larger number than usual of Year 11 students attempting the Extension 1 Mathematics course. It is hoped that they will continue to meet the challenges of this course and enjoy exploring new concepts. Some of these students will progress to Extension 2 in Year 12.

The Faculty would like to congratulate all of our Year 12 who achieved a personal best in their HSC and the students who were awarded a band 6 in their chosen level of Mathematics- Extension 2- Xinyi HE, Ian Huang, Kenyao Liang, Serena Ni and Con Paraskevopoulos, Extension 1- Constantinos Paraskevopoulos, Mathematics- Nathan Freita and Leith Sawalha and General Mathematics- Hassanain Al Kabanchi, David Gertner, Shakib Haghiri and Geoffrey Pon.

I would like to congratulate all the Mathematics teachers that have worked tirelessly with your children to ensure they have every opportunity to succeed. Our growth in NAPLAN and HSC results are a reflection of their professionalism.

Please ring and make an appointment to talk to any of the Mathematics Faculty if you have concerns about your child’s progress.

The Mathematics Faculty.
The Way North – Careers Articles Term 1 / early Term 2

**TVET**

TAFE-delivered vocational education and training (TVET) courses allow school students to gain workplace skills and experience to get a head-start on their career. When students complete their TVET course they receive a nationally accredited Certificate qualification or a Statement of Attainment.

We have a number of students completing TVET courses alongside their subjects at KNHS. These students are studying a wide range of courses; from Graphic Design to Automotive Mechanical, Hairdressing to 3D Animation.

Current 2015 TVET students should note:

- Students are to attend school on Tuesday morning and have early leave from 12:00pm to make their way to the TVET campus. All TVET classes commence no earlier than 1:30pm and students are expected to be punctual.
- All absences are to be reported to TVET teacher AND to Ms Shineberg Careers Adviser.
- Students completing TVET miss out on Tuesday afternoon classes (Period 3 & 4) at school. It is the student’s responsibility to communicate with their classroom teacher and to catch up on any work missed due to TVET commitments. If the student is not coping with the extra workload, they MUST see Ms Shineberg ASAP to discuss.
- Failure to complete TVET assessments or meet attendance requirements results in N awards and non-completion of course.
- All TVET courses have commenced and are no longer taking new students.

Current Year 10 and 11 students should start thinking about TVET courses for 2016 now! Come and see us in the Careers office for further information.

**UMAT**

Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 interested in medicine, dentistry, or optometry will need to sit the compulsory UMAT (examination) when applying for one of the above career choices at selected universities. UMAT is developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on behalf of the UMAT Consortium universities. The test is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the universities listed at http://umat.acer.edu.au/

Please see us in the Careers office for further information regarding UMAT.

**Important UMAT 2015 Dates**

UMAT 2015 Registrations: Are now open
Registrations close: 5 June 2015
Sit UMAT: 29 July 2015
Results released: Late September 2015
By published deadline: Apply to universities

**Tax File Number Applications**

As of 1st January 2015, students are no longer able to apply for a TFN through school. Students can now apply for a Tax File Number online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office. Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN.

More information on applying online can be found at www.ato.gov.au
Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at www.ato.gov.au

*Students are asked to check with Ms Kabbara/Ms Shineberg if they applied through the school in 2014 but have not received their TFN.*
University Visits to KNHS

Year 11 & 12 students are invited to attend our university visits held at lunchtime in the common room during Term 2. Student representatives will go through all aspects of entry, courses, uni life, scholarships and will be happy to answer general questions in regard to the university they represent. We recommended that you go to as many of these sessions as possible so that you can make informed decisions about university choices in 2016. Don’t rule any of them out at this point!!

*Check Careers emails + daily bulletins for updates and/or additional university visits.

YEAR 11 & 12 Careers Excursions

We invite 40 Year 12 students to attend the HSC Careers Expo and 40 Year 11 Students to attend the Western Sydney Careers Expo.

Year 12 HSC Careers Expo Excursion – THURSDAY 28TH MAY

Year 11 Western Sydney Careers Expo - FRIDAY 19th JUNE

Exhibitors at the expo will provide:
- Information and resources for the HSC
- Information about university, TAFE and training courses
- Career advice
- Study advice
- International exchange and gap year programs

Students will also be able to attend information seminars about:
- HSC subjects including English, Maths, Biology, Business Studies, PDHPE, Legal Studies, Ancient History
- Tertiary courses
- Careers
- Gap year options

Please see Ms Kabbara and Ms Shineberg in the CA office for permission notes and payment details.

Year 10 Work Experience

Although Work Experience is not until Term 4, it is already time to start planning!

Work Experience allows students to experience the world of work and gain some insights into the working environment before they enter the workforce in a full-time capacity. It has many benefits including:

- Showing to potential employers that you are ‘work ready’, learn and develop essential employability skills, test out an industry before you commit …the list goes on!

Work Experience can also lead to employment for those students wishing to leave school at the end of Year 10 or for those needing a casual job through Years 11 & 12.

KNHS believes Work Experience to be a vital part of the school’s curriculum and therefore require ALL Year 10 students to participate.

What to do now??

We ask that students consult with parents about the type of work they would like to do for work experience and think about who they know that might be able to offer them a placement.

Start approaching employers about the possibility of doing work experience with them in Term 4

Check if you need a WHITE CARD (Work, Health & Safety Certification) *All trades will require students to have a White Card for Work Experience placements.

Students will have to organise their own placements, in consultation with the CA and will complete 2 weeks in Term 4, 2015.

Students are able to go to two different placements or can stick with the one employer for the whole 2 weeks.

More information will be provided throughout the year.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Term/Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sydney University</td>
<td>Term 2 Week 1</td>
<td>Friday 24th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notre Dame University</td>
<td>Term 2 Week 2</td>
<td>Friday 1st May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wollongong</td>
<td>Term 2 Week 3</td>
<td>Friday 8th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Western Sydney</td>
<td>Term 2 Week 5</td>
<td>Friday 22nd May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
<td>Term 2 Week 7</td>
<td>Friday 5th June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All sessions held in COMMON ROOM @ lunchtime – bring your lunch. Please be prompt or you might miss out!!

---
Students of Year 7 and 8 have been participating in a Mind Matters Program which foster Mental Health and Resilience in Schools. Mr Spero, Mrs Cazouris, Mr Rozario, Mrs Kabbara, Mrs Kallitisis and Mr Bury have been working very hard in creating fun learning activities for students to get to know their peers and make valuable connection through a variety of activities, guest speakers, concerts, days out and games. Topics covered are bullying, resilience, rules, making connections, chasing challenges and many more. Students have been providing us with positive verbal feedback as they feel that Mind Matters is very valuable. Please view some photos below of students in action.
Open Night was a Big Success. Eight big groups of parents visited our Trade Kitchens at Kingsgrove North High School. Mrs Bilali (our Deputy Principal), Mrs Cazouris (Acting Head Teacher Home Economics/Computing), Mrs Lathouras (Head Chef and Hospitality Teacher), Mrs Spero and Mrs Pangis (Food Technology/Textiles Teachers) organised for the year 7 Food Technology students and Year 11/12 Hospitality Students to cater for the parents who were visiting our school on the 2 March 2015. Teachers and Students did an Amazing Job! All finger food, muffins and chocolate chip cookies were taken within Minutes! They were Delicious!

A Big Thank you to the Students and the Teachers who worked hard that afternoon. Please view some of our photos with Teachers and Students in action.
It’s Not All Garbage!
Year 10 Geography students were fortunate in taking part in a presentation by Cleanaway – the business that collects and processes rubbish from our local area. Students took part in interactive activities to highlight the importance of reducing, re-using and recycling when it comes to management of our household waste. This was a valuable experience and an eye-opener.

Did you know?
Australia is the 2nd highest producer of waste in the world. A banana peel takes 1-6 months to decompose. A plastic bag takes 1000 years to decompose!

Ms D Tsitsos
Social Science Teacher

Sports Report
2015 Term 1

It’s Winter Sport time once again and KNHS grade teams are looking strong with a good chance of many semi-final competitors. We wish all of our teams the best of luck as they continue the Winning Wednesday spirit in all competitions.

PASS & SLR Skyzone excursion
2015 will see the PDHPE faculty organize a fun and active excursion to Skyzone in Alexandria. Everyone will have an immense amount of fun and challenge themselves to tackle some tough obstacles

2015 Zone Carnivals
Congratulations to all those students who attended the Zone Swimming carnival in term 1 with a big congratulations going to Nicholas Allanson who made it to the Regional Carnival.

Also, good luck to all those students competing at the Zone Cross Country in week 5 this term.

Up-coming events
15th of May- KNHS Athletics Carnival
19th of May – Zone Cross Country
1st, 2nd & 3rd of July – Year 11 Crossroads Camp

Mr Costa D’Addona
Sports Co-ordinator
Welcome to the Library in 2015. We have had a very busy start to the year. The seniors are using the HSC guides, working on past papers and enjoying being with their classmates. Our year 10s have worked hard on their Science and English assessments and the library staff are waiting for some samples from all the Food Tech assignments. Year 8 have pushed our research capabilities to new heights, thanks to the Mathematics department and their love of Platonic solids and Mr Christinson’s fascination with blue moons. Year 7 are working on their World Heritage Site project for geography, writing bibliographies and reviewing picture book reviews in their library lessons.

Our students have embraced reading with enthusiasm this year. Many year 7s have entered the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Years 8 and 9 are also welcome to enter. We can help students register online and add the books they have read. Junior students have the opportunity to read in roll call. Teachers sign the reading logs on the days the students read. When 10 signatures are collected, the logs come to the library and achievement cards are issued.

Students read a wide variety of materials in the Library. As always the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books are all time favourites. In a similar vein, the 13, 26, 39 and 52 Storey Tree house books by Andy Griffiths are very popular. New books come in during the term, and students are always welcome to borrow these and recommend others. Gaming magazines and Rugby League Week are rarely on the shelves because they are in such demand.

In our modern and connected age there is a tendency for “multitasking”, especially when there is a computer or portable device involved. Research shows that working on more than one thing at a time breaks concentration and decreases performance in all the tasks. Children need practice to build their concentration. Encourage your child to read silently without interruption and for some time – starting from about 10 minutes …. every day. You can also encourage reading by having older children read to their little brothers or sisters. The library has picture books and early chapter books suitable for younger boys and girls.
Term 2 Uniform and lateness
Two of our target areas for Term 4 continue to be students who are persistently late for school and students who do not follow our school uniform guidelines. Students who fit into these categories will be looking at after school detentions once they have been given an initial warning. When students are enrolled they all sign an agreement that they will comply with the school rules. So if your child does not have an alarm clock or a school jumper or proper black leather shoes maybe they can have a trip to Yeronga uniform shop to ensure that they are properly attired for school in Term 4. Otherwise the inevitability of detention awaits.

Second Hand Uniform Shop
The Uniform Shop is OPEN every Monday and Tuesday recess. It is located next to DF7. It is operated by Retail Service students. They merchandise the store, process transactions and carry out housekeeping. This will help them in meeting the competencies in Retail Services and provide a needed service within our school.

Uniforms are sold at affordable prices to student in the convenience of their own school. Students can also donate any school uniform they have which they don’t need. Please ensure it is washed and ironed if needed.

The school will present a certificate of contribution, to the students, school and community of Kingsgrove North High School and an achievement card will also be given. Uniforms can be donated to Ms Papadopoulos in the Social Science Staffroom.

Thank you to the students and parents for your support of the uniform shop. In particular I would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful Year 12 students for their generous donations.

Thank you to: Khalid Abdallah, Haidar Hammad, Kim Doan, Maria Couvardis, Kunyao Liang, Andrew Demos, Marianna Magdalinou and Feras Sefian in Year 11. We wish all students safe and happy school holidays.
Kingsgrove North High School Uniform

**Junior Girls’ Dress Code**
Maroon/Grey/Blue overcheck school skirt or navy blue UNIFORM tailored slacks or navy blue tailored shorts
Light blue shirt with school crest (with option of school tie in winter)
White ankle socks.
Black enclosed leather shoes – not sneakers for safety requirements in practical lessons.
Maroon jumper with the school crest.
Blue School jacket
White hijab where appropriate.
White or navy neck scarf in winter

**Senior Girls Dress Code**
Grey tailored UNIFORM slacks, or skirt
White blouse with school crest (with school tie in winter)
White ankle socks or black stockings.
Maroon jumper with the school crest.
Black Leather shoes – not sneakers for safety requirements in practical lessons.
Blue School jacket
Maroon school blazer (optional) or Special Jacket for Year 12 only.
White hijab where appropriate.
White or navy neck scarf in winter

**Junior Boys’ Dress Code**
Navy blue UNIFORM shorts or trousers
Light blue shirt with the school crest (with school tie in winter)
Navy blue long/short socks.
Black leather shoes – not sneakers for safety requirement in practical lessons.
Maroon jumper – jumper with school crest.
Blue School jacket
White or navy neck scarf in winter

**Senior Boys’ Dress Code**
Grey UNIFORM shorts or trousers
White shirt with school crest (with option of school tie in winter).
Grey long/short socks.
Black leather shoes – not sneakers for safety requirement in practical lessons.
Maroon jumper with school crest.
School jacket
Maroon school blazer (optional) or Special Jacket for Year 12 only.
White or navy neck scarf in winter.

**On Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday:**
You must wear fully enclosed, laced up, leather shoes. If you don’t wear fully enclosed leather shoes you will not be able to participate in some Science and Mandatory Technology activities.

**On Wednesdays and PE lessons:** You must wear fully enclosed sport shoes that cover the ankles. Canvas shoes are **not** sport shoes.