

# St George Girls High School

Telephone: 9587 5902 Facsimile: 9553 8043  
Email: [stgeorgegi-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:stgeorgegi-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Website: [www.sgghs.com.au](http://www.sgghs.com.au)



Monthly Bulletin

February 2021  
Vol. 26 No. 1



## HSC Excellence Assembly

Thursday 18 February  
School Hall  
10:55am

## Parents & Citizens' Association Meeting

Thursday 25 February  
Staff Common Room  
7pm

## Mothers' Committee Meeting

Wednesday 3 March  
Library  
10am

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to the 2021 school year. I hope all members of the school community had a wonderful summer break and have returned re-energised and ready to commence what is gearing up to be another exciting year at St George Girls High School. I would like to also extend a very warm welcome to our new students and families that have joined our school community for the first time in 2021, in particular our Year 7 and 11 students. We have also welcomed a number of new students into Years 9 and 10 and I am confident that all of our new students and their families will settle in and become part of the St George community in no time at all. Thank you to all our new families and students for choosing St George to be your school, I look forward to getting to know you and working together over the coming years.

## Presentation Day Assemblies

Our Presentation Day assemblies were Live Streamed to our families at the end of last year. It was great that we were able to creatively celebrate the achievements of our students after what was a very challenging and changeable school year.



The Presentation Day assemblies were so skilfully organised by Miss Felicity Dwyer, Ms Kate Di Leo and Mrs Panny Louskos who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that we were able to host each cohort assembly on school grounds. They did an incredible job once again, to stage such a complex and significant COVID safe event and I thank them for their organisation, passion and commitment to this undertaking that is always a very special occasion for our school. I do look forward to returning to the Sydney Town Hall in 2021 as I anticipate that school operations will slowly return back to normal throughout the year.



Thank you to Mr Callan Moroney, Miss Ashley Hamilton and to the CAPA Crew students who played a significant supporting role to Live Stream and record each of the Presentation Day assemblies. I have included a few images captured by our school photographers Caitlin Matthews and Mia Feghali to share with the community.



I am pleased to report that the school has now settled into its usual routine quite seamlessly and I am grateful to the staff, in particular to our Deputy Principal Ms Pam Abson, Year Advisors, timetable team and the school administration and support staff for their work assisting the students into their new classes and school routines.

### **Welcome to Newly Appointed Permanent Teachers and Temporary Teachers for 2021**

I would like to welcome Ms Morgan Hillier who has been appointed as a permanent member the English faculty through a highly competitive merit selection process. Ms Hillier joins us after working at Kingsgrove High School. I know that she is very excited to work with our high potential learners and we officially welcome her on board from start of this term.

We continue to have a number of temporary teacher appointments for 2021. Welcome to the following new temporary teachers, Ms Nancy Tang (Social Science), Mr Cameron Bayer (Science), Ms Alaina Marland (TAS), Ms Lee Flanagan (TAS) and Ms Sarah Milgate (CAPA – Visual Arts).

Welcome back to Mr John Morris (TAS), Mr Stephen Alexander (TAS), Miss Ning Cui (Mathematics), Ms Danielle Galea (Languages), Ms Chadia Sucur (Social Science), Miss Kate Gerrish (Social Science), Mr Yoni Charlupski (PDHPE), Mrs Farlie Pirini (PDHPE), Miss Alexandra Neave (History), Mr Jon Suffolk (CAPA - Drama), Miss Natalia Notkina (English), Mrs Bronwyn Treacy (English) and Ms Leanne Fong (Science).

I welcome all of our returning and new members of staff to the St George community and I look forward to working together over the year.

### **Staffing Update and News**

I would like to officially welcome Mrs Amber Housego into the role of Relieving Deputy Principal – Curriculum following the completion on an internal Expression of Interest (EOI) process. Our substantive Deputy Principal Mr Mark Treacy commences 2021 on leave awaiting the approval of a transfer to northern NSW. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Treacy for his service to the school during his time in this most important leadership position. We wish Mr Treacy all the very best for the next chapter in his educational career.

We also welcome Miss Jenny Quah into the role of Relieving Head Teacher TAS for the duration of Mrs Forster's maternity leave. Mrs Forster welcomed a beautiful little girl who she named Jocelyn into the world in January, and I know that the TAS faculty is in very capable hands while Mrs Forster enjoys her maternity leave.

Mrs Kaye Williamson will continue to work part-time as Head Teacher Wellbeing on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in 2021 and Mrs Jodie Jospe will relieve as Head Teacher Wellbeing every Wednesday and Friday.

I also would like to congratulate Mr Andrew Kirszman and his wife who have become first time parents during the summer break. They too have welcomed a little girl in early January and her name is Lydia.

### **HSC Results**

The Class of 2020 have made their school very proud and each year in my first Gazette correspondence I always celebrate the HSC results of our students. The students have once again achieved wonderful results, whilst also pursuing a wide range of interests beyond the classroom – performing arts, debating, sport, outdoor adventures, voluntary work and local community involvement – and have done so with great enjoyment and success.

The Class of 2020 actively embraced all of the opportunities St George had on offer while also demonstrating a genuine passion for learning, and a real commitment to their studies, and were supported by a superb team of educators throughout their HSC journey.

Our recent graduates HSC achievements are but one piece of a jigsaw. Of greater importance is the character and the values they have developed over the course of their education, and these will continue to develop, as they take on the grand adventures of life. We should all feel very proud of the following achievements that I would like to celebrate.

The following **nine** HSC subjects demonstrated growth in the number of students in the top 2 bands in comparison to the 2019 HSC results;

- Students who studied **Ancient History** achieved an average exam mark of 85.26, 13.16 marks greater than the state mean, 77.77% (up from 69% in 2019) of students received a band 5 or 6 compared to 33.06% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 86.16, 14.17 marks greater than the state mean, 84.37% (up from 73.52% in 2019) of students who studied **Business Studies** achieved a band 5 or 6 compared to only 34.91% state-wide.
- 67.73% (up from 51.38% in 2019) of **Chemistry** students achieved a band 5 or 6 compared to 42.86% state-wide.
- In **Economics**, 20.45% of students achieved a band 6 compared to 13.4% state-wide. 79.54% (up from 76.66% in 2019) of candidates were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 51.3% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 44.07/50, 100% (up from 95.23% in 2019) of **English Extension 1** students were placed in the top 2 bands (E3 and E4) compared to 92.54% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 89.03, 100% (up from 83.33% in 2019) of **Food Technology** candidates placed in the top 2 bands compared to 29.48% state-wide.
- 30% (up from 16.66% in 2019) of students studying **Personal Development, Health and Physical Education** were awarded a band 6, compared to 9.13% state-wide. 96.66% (up from 83.32% in 2019) of students were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 34.19% state-wide.
- 60.86% (up from 52.37% in 2019) of students in **Physics** were awarded marks in the top 2 bands, compared to 40.36% state-wide.
- 75% (up from 66.66% in 2019) of **French Continuers** students were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 63.57% state-wide.

#### Other HSC Highlights:

- With an average mark of 81.30, 8.91 marks greater than the state mean, 62.66% of **Biology** students achieved a band 5 or 6 compared to 30.54% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 86.91, 7.29 marks above the state mean, 77.77% of **Drama** students achieved a band 5 or 6 compared to 59.04% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 85.17, 83.84% of **English Advanced** students were awarded a band 5 or 6, compared to 63.31% state-wide.
- 94.11% of **English Extension 2** students were placed in the top 2 bands (E3 and E4) compared to 82.4% state-wide.
- In **Information Processes and Technology** 61.53% of students were awarded a band 5 or 6, compared to 32.1% state-wide.
- With an average mark of 88.89, 13.92 marks above the state, 58.82% of **Legal Studies** students achieved a band 6 compared to 15.01% state-wide. 82.34% of students were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 39.4% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 89, 20.6 marks above the state, 90.9% of **Mathematics Standard 2** students achieved a band 5 or 6 compared to 24.5% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 84.61, 73.82% of **Mathematics Advanced** students were awarded a band 5 or 6, compared to 52.46% state-wide.
- 83.32% of **Mathematics Extension 1** students received a mark in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3), compared to 74.25% state-wide.
- 83.33% of students in **Mathematics Extension 2** achieved a mark in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3), compared to 83.86% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 84.08, 11.55 marks above the state, 83.32% of **Modern History** students received a band 5 or 6 compared to 37.13% state-wide.
- 93.75% of **History Extension** students placed in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3) compared to 76.06% state-wide.
- **Music 2** students received an average exam mark of 85.31, 100% of students were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 87.78% state-wide.
- 100% of **Music Extension** students were placed in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3) compared to 97.25% state-wide.

- 40% of **Science Extension** students placed in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3) compared to 73.72% state-wide.
- With an average exam mark of 91.44, 77.77% (up from 60% in 2019) of **Visual Arts** students were awarded a band 6, compared to 16.83% state-wide. 100% of students were placed in the top 2 bands compared to 62.5% state-wide.
- 83.33% of **Japanese Continuers** students achieved a band 6, compared to 28.86% state-wide. 100% of students were awarded a band 5 or 6 compared to 56.24% state-wide.
- 100% of our **Japanese Extension** students were placed in the top 2 bands (E4 and E3) compared to 88.95% state-wide.

The summary of the 2020 HSC results certainly highlights that our students have again achieved quality HSC results. We as a school community all feel very proud of the energy and time that has been invested to ensure that our academic performance continues to place our school as one of NSW High Performing schools.

In 2020 our school ranked 39<sup>th</sup> in NSW (a drop from 32<sup>nd</sup> in 2019), while this was disappointing overall, it is important to celebrate the significant growth and improvement across 9 subjects in comparison to their 2019 results as evidenced in the analysis above. This highlights the quality educational outcomes we provide for our high potential learners and our collective commitment to reflection, review and growth.

There is no question that COVID-19 created a considerable interruption to the HSC year, however; the fact the SGGHS HSC results remained consistent, despite this interruption, is a testament to the significant effort invested by both staff and students to ensure the students were supported and prepared for their HSC examinations.

SGGHS also had a number of HSC subjects demonstrating an improvement in performance at the top end in comparison to the year before. This suggests that despite the challenges COVID-19 created our school effectively safeguarded educational continuity and quality teaching for our learners to allow them to realise their academic potential. We are very proud of the efforts of the students and our staff.

The 2020 HSC success is further evidenced by the following individual student achievements:

- We had **two** students share the prestigious DUX of the year. Congratulations to and **Taylor Ong-Le** and **Annie Wang**, each attaining the very impressive ATAR of 99.75.
- We had **two** students listed as HSC Top Achievers. **Anne Chen** was ranked **9<sup>th</sup>** in the State in Mathematics Advanced and **Taylor Ong-Le** was ranked an **10<sup>th</sup>** in the state in English Advanced which is very impressive.
- **Katerina Kalogerakis** (currently in Year 12 2021) was ranked **2<sup>nd</sup>** in the State in Modern Greek Extension and **4<sup>th</sup>** in the state in Modern Greek Continuers, studied through the Saturday School of Community Languages Kogarah High School Centre.
- **Sansitha Velayuthar** (currently in Year 12 2021) was ranked **3<sup>rd</sup>** in the state in Tamil Continuers a course she completed while in Year 11 via an Outside Tutor.
- **Eight** students were named in the HSC All-Round Achievers List for achieving a result in the highest band possible (Band 6 or Band E4) in 10 or more units of courses in their pattern of study. They were **Anne Chen, Katrina Dinh, Natasha Hossain, Sophie Indraputri, Christine Karabalis, Rachel Luo, Taylor Ong-Le and Annie Wang.**

In the Creative and Performing Arts we had a number of students whose work was acknowledged as exemplars. Each year exceptional major works and performances are nominated for inclusion in exhibitions which showcase the very best in NSW schools.

- **Three** students had her Body of Works nominated for **ARTEXPRESS**, Congratulations to Angela Cheung, Jade Ma and Ayisna Takhel. Jade Ma and Ayisna Takhel had their Body of Works selected for inclusion in ARTEXPRESS. To receive a nomination is always a wonderful achievement, but to be selected for inclusion is even more special.

- **Two** of our Music students had their compositions nominated for **ENCORE**. A very big congratulations to Linyun Cai and Vanessa Pirom on this wonderful achievement.
- **Three** Year 12 Drama students had their Individual Performances nominated for OnSTAGE, a selection of performances and individual projects from Higher School Certificate Drama students, for their Individual Performances. Congratulations to Cate Armstrong, Katrina Hayler and Sophie Indraputri.
- **Two** of our students, Tiffany Li and Helena Tang were nominated for inclusion in **Texstyle**, the annual exhibition of outstanding Major Textiles Projects developed by HSC Textiles and Design students. This is a great achievement and one that is even more notable when you consider that these two students completed this course via the Sydney Distance Education High School.

We are understandably very proud of all the Class of 2020. I would also like to thank the dedicated group of teachers and supportive parents who lived the HSC journey with the students. The students are the ones who have worked tirelessly to achieve their results, however each year there is always a group of core individuals who work alongside the students, helping steer them to such exceptional outcomes. I am now excited to work alongside the Class of 2021 as they navigate their HSC year. I am confident that the next group of students will collaborate together towards impressive outcomes and I wish them all the very best for what will be both a demanding and highly rewarding year ahead.

### 2020 Metropolitan South Operational Directorate Principals Network Awards



On our first day back at school for staff this year our Director Educational Leadership, Kogarah Network, Mr Craig Smith attended our School Development Day morning to present very special Awards to two most deserving recipients from our school. Unfortunately last the year due to the pandemic the annual Metropolitan South Operational Directorate Network Awards were cancelled. These Awards are held each year and have been designed as a vehicle to celebrate and recognise the outstanding contributions of our colleagues in public education. The ceremony celebrates the diverse and valuable contributions made by a range of individuals across four Networks (Canterbury, Georges River, Kogarah and Marrickville) in each of the Award nomination categories of Early Career Teacher, Classroom Teacher, School Executive, Principal, School Administrative and Support Staff, Education Office Administration and Support Staff and Parent or Community Member.

In 2020 two members from our school were nominated to be recognised for their contributions. Ms Pamela Abson our Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning was recognised in the School Executive category for her outstanding contribution to the strategic leadership of the school and Miss Louise Bullivant was recognised in the Teacher (Non-Executive) category for her work as a highly regarded educator and her support of a range of school initiatives and activities. Although we were understandably disappointed that the ceremony did not go ahead in its usual format, it was a real privilege to have Mr Craig Smith take the time out from his day to personally present the awards to our most deserving recipients in the company of their esteemed SGGHS colleagues.



## COVID 19 Advice for Families

As previously communicated, the Department of Education (DoE) have provided updated advice for families and this information can be accessed on their website via the following link;

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

The health and safety of all in our community is our paramount concern and so we will begin 2021 with most of last year's restrictions continuing to be in place. Please take a moment to familiarise yourself with the information as soon as practical.

Please remember, as per the 2020 COVID-19 guidelines, students are not to attend school if they are unwell, even if they only have the mildest of symptoms. Those who have been unwell and have taken a COVID-19 test, are required to return to school only after providing the office with a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free. Our parents/carers and students adhered to these expectations exceptionally well last year, and I expect that this will continue in 2021.

NSW Health keeps an updated list of case locations and information on their website and I encourage you to review this frequently and follow any requirements they put in place. If your family is impacted by one of the listed venues please contact the school so that we can assist you.

I will continue to keep parents updated on NSW government requirements pertaining to COVID-19 and any implications for our school community. As COVID-19 is well-managed at the moment in NSW (as we know, this can quickly change), most school activities are able to resume, including excursions and school carnivals. Some restrictions still apply including the interactions of students between grades and for the foreseeable future parents and carers will not be able to attend school events. We will continue to Live Stream and record major school gatherings to ensure our parents/carers are able to access and view these special celebrations.

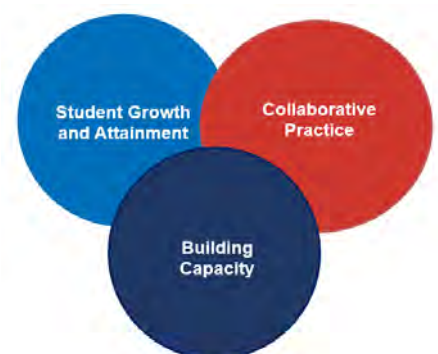
The updated advice does stipulate however that parents/carers can enter the school to:

- purchase or pick up uniforms from the uniform shop
- meet with school staff for a scheduled appointment
- attend P&C meetings hosted on school grounds

I will continue to keep you updated on NSW government requirements around COVID-19 and any implications they may have on school staff, you or our students. I also want to assure you that we continue to ensure we abide by all NSW requirements including physical distancing for adults, hygiene measures and good infection control. As always, I thank you for your patience, ongoing support and understanding as we continue to navigate our way through what are extraordinary times together. I want to remind you that if you or your family are having difficulties, please contact me so that we can support you.

## 2021-2024 Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) Update

During Term 4, SGGHS staff engaged in a very comprehensive situational analysis to inform the 2021-2024 Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP). The Executive Leadership team also participated in an Executive Leadership Day held at school to reflect on the situational analysis findings and began important work that will now form the blueprint of the SGGHS SIP. The second Executive Leadership Day is scheduled for Wednesday 17 February where the Executive team will continue to work on developing our target areas for the new SIP, identifying the purpose for each strategic direction as well as key initiatives, activities, success criteria and improvement measures.



Through the situational analysis process now completed, the school has been able to identify 3 key strategic directions that are underpinned by the 3 domains of learning, teaching and leading of the School Excellence Framework (SEF) that will engage and unite and drive the work for our school community members. The SGGHS strategic directions for 2021-2024 are **Student Growth and Attainment, Collaborative Practice and Building Capacity.**

I am excited to lead the next steps of this process to now further develop and finalise the SIP by the end of Term 1 as required by the DoE. I know that the energy we have invested to reflect on where we are as a school at the moment, to identify where we want to be and by narrowing the focus for future improvement to the identified key themes of differentiation, formative assessment, explicit teaching and feedback, will ensure that we continue to deliver quality educational outcomes, experiences and opportunities for the high potential learners we have the privilege to serve.

I look forward to sharing and discussing the 2021-2024 SIP with the school community over the coming weeks.

### Swimming Carnival

The annual Swimming Carnival will be held on **Wednesday 10 February** at Bexley Pool. This is always a highly enjoyable day for the school community and I am looking forward to attending the event to witness the students embracing their events and participating on the day to support their houses.

I would like to thank the PD/H/PE staff and Ms Papas (carnival organiser) in particular for making all the necessary arrangements to ensure that our carnival was again be a successful whole school event. I would also like to congratulate our elected House Captains and Vice-Captains for 2021. They will certainly do a fabulous job on the day organising the students and representing their House with flair and fun. Congratulations to the following students:

#### Allunga

Captain: **Katherine Elliott**

Vice –Captain: **Hayley Chan**

#### Larool

Captain: **Chloe Khan**

Vice-Captain: **Lily Knowles**

#### Mirrabooka

Captain: **Amara Randhawa**

Vice-Captain: **Mindy Liu**

#### Mitamit

Captain: **Aneesa Sukkarieh**

Vice-Captain: **Jashan Singh**

I am also pleased to announce that the 2021 Sport Captain for St George Girls High School is Bonnie Li. Bonnie successfully worked through a rigorous selection process which included a written application and an interview for this role and I know that she will work collaboratively with the carnival organiser, sport organiser, House Captains and Vice-Captains to support the smooth running of all of our sporting carnivals and events, as well as develop some exciting new sporting opportunities and activities for our students to enjoy and participate in over the year.

### New Student Welcome Morning Tea

On Thursday 4 February the school hosted a special welcome morning tea for our new students in Years 8-11 to celebrate their successful completion of the first week at SGGHS. It was a great opportunity to check in with our new students to ensure that they are all settling into their new school routine and environment. I know our new students will grow and thrive in their new learning environment and we are so glad to welcome our new students into our school community for 2021.





## 2021 School Contributions, Subject Fees and Building Fund

All families have been issued with the 2021 school contributions and subject fee sheets. The date for final payment is Monday 1 March 2021. Copies of the fee sheets can be obtained from the Finance office and I thank the families that have already finalised their payments so promptly. As a public school we are fortunate to have the support from our families and community to ensure that the provision of quality educational resources and opportunities continue to be made available for our students. If any family is experiencing financial difficulties, please contact me directly at school to discuss this and to make the appropriate arrangements.

Can I also encourage all families to consider contributing to the Building Fund in 2021. As was the case in 2020, any funds raised through community Building Fund contributions will be directed towards the realisation of the ambitious plan to undertake a building project to replace the demountable classrooms on site with a new multipurpose teaching and learning space that will service the students well into the future.

This is clearly a more ambitious medium-term to longer-term project, however I know with the support from the school and the Department of Education this vision will be realised in the years to come and any support the community can provide to assist with raising valuable funds for this project will be greatly appreciated. This year I plan to have the project designed and costed to ensure that we have an accurate understanding of the scope of this project and the funds we as a school are likely to be able to contribute towards its realisation.

The school is very grateful for any donations into this fund and each year and I look forward to providing timely updates on how the building project planning progresses throughout the year.

## Mothers' Committee and P&C

We are very fortunate to have two parent bodies that work together to support our school community. I wanted to begin the year by informing all parents, particularly our new parents to the school, that the P&C and Mothers' Committee are wonderful forums that provide you with a strong link to the school. The Mothers' Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month during school terms in the School Library at 10:00am. I attended the first meeting for the year that was held last Wednesday and was delighted to see so many mothers, particularly new mothers to the school in attendance.

The P&C meets on the fourth Thursday of the month and the first P&C meeting for the year will be on **Thursday 25 February at 7:00pm** in the staff common room. I strongly encourage all parents to attend Mothers' Committee and P&C meetings as it a wonderful conduit for information provision as well as a positive way to participate and support the school Community.

The first P&C meeting for the year will be held face-to-face in the common room. We have decided to also give our parents/carers the opportunity to join the meeting via Zoom if they are unable to attend the school. Parents/carers just require a registered Zoom account to join the meeting. The meeting details are as follows;

**Topic:** SGGHS February P&C Meeting

**Time:** 25 February 2021 – 7:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

**Meeting ID:**

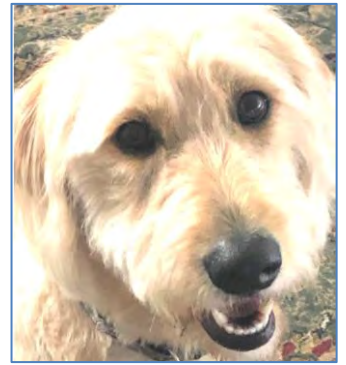
**Passcode:**

We are very lucky to have such active and vibrant parent bodies I know that each year these bodies look forward to welcoming new parents as new cohorts of students begin. I look forward to connecting with all parents, including our new parents at these meetings throughout the year.

## SGGHS Welcomes Molly

In 2021 SGGHS is welcoming a new addition to the School Counselling service – Molly the Therapy Dog.

Molly is a golden Labradoodle who will assist in the provision of mental health support. Molly will be joining the school counselling service and will attend school with Ms Elizabeth McAlpine (our School Psychologist) who is a registered Psychologist and accredited Animal-Assisted Therapist. Molly is very well-behaved and calm, having all the qualities of a successful Animal-Assisted Therapy (AAT) co-therapist.



After significant thought and consultation with Ms Elizabeth McAlpine, the P&C and Craig Smith, Director, Educational leadership, we have finally received the necessary approval to have a therapy dog at SGGHS. I know that Molly will provide additional support for the students at our school and I am looking forward to hearing about the positive outcomes achieved through Animal-Assisted Therapy.

## Student Achievements

In each Gazette I like to share any specific individual or group achievements experienced by our students. I am always proud to share our student successes with the community and I know that our students are represented in such a wide variety of areas. I don't always hear about these achievements and therefore welcome updates from students, parents and the community to ensure that I am made aware of any special activities or achievements.

I would like to begin the year by congratulating **Katelyn Labrakis** in **Year 10** for securing a position in the NSW Public Schools Drama Company Ensemble. This is a wonderful achievement and she her selection for State representation in this domain has made her school very proud.

I look forward to seeing many members of our school community over the coming months at the various planned school events. I must say that I was so excited to return back to school for another wonderful year. Welcome back again to what I know will be a quality year of great teaching and learning at St George Girls High School.

Ms Betty Romeo  
**Principal**

## Deputy Principal's Report – Teaching and Learning

**W**elcome back to the start of the 2021 school year and a very special and warm welcome to all new students and families. It has been great to see our new students, in Year 7 and in Years 9-11 settling well into school life and their studies and I am confident that you will find your time at St George richly rewarding both in and outside the classroom.

As the Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning, my portfolio focuses largely on implementing Department of Education policies into the school structure and developing and organising programs and workshops across all stages that enhance academic outcomes and achievement and support the school's strategic directions. Some of my responsibilities include coordinating the assessment policies and information for all year groups and managing HSC requirements and examinations. I lead the professional learning for staff at SGGHS, including School Development Days and Conferences, support all staff with maintaining their accreditation and work with the Principal on implementing the School Plan.

This year I will be the Deputy Principal working with Years 8, 10 and 12. Part of my role is to support the wellbeing and progress of all students and liaise with parents. To assist parents in knowing who they should contact regarding any concerns in the first instance, I have attached in this month's Gazette a copy of our revised student wellbeing referral processes. It clearly outlines the contact person for any needs or concerns including serious issues, family matters, wellbeing concerns, learning concerns or classroom and work ethic concerns.

## Assessment Policies, Booklets and Calendars

All students and parents will have access to the relevant Assessment Policy (which outlines the school's procedures in regards to assessment tasks), Assessment Booklet (providing an overview of each course and the assessment overview) and Assessment Calendar (providing specific dates for each class) through the Student and Parental Portal. The assessment calendar allows students to plan their time effectively, organise their study routine and establish quality practices when it comes to completing their school work. Assessment information is currently being finalised for Years 7-9 and will be uploaded over the next 2 weeks. Assessment information for Years 10, 11 and 12 is currently available. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they familiarise themselves with all information outlined in the booklet. Students and parents of Years 7, 9 and 11 are to sign the acknowledgement slip at the back of the booklet and return it to Ms Housego, the Relieving Deputy Principal for these year groups.

**All assessment documentation will be available for students and parents on the Student and Parent Portal in the Resource section – Assessment Information.**

## School Procedures

As the year starts, we would like to remind parents of a few basic school procedures. Outlined below are some school procedures that we are currently asked about or regularly need to remind students about.

- All students are expected to be at school in full school uniform, including footwear. Appropriate footwear means covered, lace-up, polishable leather shoes and white socks which cover the ankle. Jewellery is not to be worn except for earrings. Earrings are to be sleepers or studs not dangling earrings or large hooped earrings. Any student who is not in full school uniform must bring a note signed by a parent/carer and obtain a uniform pass from the Deputy Principal before school, or obtain a uniform infringement slip from the kiosk in the front office if they do not have a note.
- On mufti days Students are not to wear T-shirts with inappropriate slogans (alcohol, drug references, offensive language), bare midriff tops, thongs or strappy shoes.
- Students are often required to leave their bags outside their classrooms. They should make sure they bring their valuables (e.g. wallets, phones) into class with them. Students are discouraged from bringing large amounts of money to school. If this is unavoidable, money can be left in the front office for safe keeping and picked up at the end of the day.
- Mobile phones are not to be used during class time, unless there is a specific educational purpose (e.g. voice recording) and the class teacher has given permission. Any student who continues to use their phone at these times will be reported to the Deputy Principal.
- Parents whose daughters are marked absent from roll call will receive a text message by 10:00am informing them of their daughter's absence. Replying to this text is sufficient as an explanation of absence – a paper note does not need to be submitted to the school as well. Please note that you can only reply to a specific message for a specific absence and you cannot reply to the same number more than once. If you know your daughter is absent from school and do not receive a text message, please contact the front office to let us know. We may need to update your mobile phone number on our records. Similarly if you receive a text when you think your daughter is at school, please contact the school so that we can clarify the situation and adjust our records.
- Students who feel sick during the day are to report to the front office so their condition can be assessed. If necessary the office will contact parents to let them know of their daughter's situation. Students are not to ring home themselves to make their own arrangements for being picked up from school.

At the assembly on the first day of the year, I went through a detailed outline of key school procedures with the students.

**A copy of this presentation titled '2021 School Information and Procedures for Students' is available on the Student and Parent Portal in the Resource section. Support in ensuring all students follow the procedures outlined is greatly appreciated.**

## Important Information for students and parents/carers in Years 11 and 12

All Year 11 students have been issued with a letter that outlines the key expectations the school has of its senior students. This letter requires the signature of parents and students and must be returned to the Relieving Deputy Principal in Charge of Year 11, Ms Amber Housego. I strongly encourage all parents to read through the letter carefully to ensure that there is clarity around the school's expectations of Year 11 students.

Senior students in Years 11 and 12 are not permitted to leave school grounds at any time throughout the day, this includes recess, lunch and study periods. The students have been informed that if they leave school grounds without permission, it will be regarded as a partial truancy and this will be dealt with as a disciplinary matter. Students must also ensure that they are in attendance for all period 0 and lunchtime classes as these are part of their official timetable and attendance is monitored very closely.

Year 11 students are expected to be at school on time each day and are not permitted to leave before the official end of the school day. If a student has a timetabled study period during period 1, they must sign in at the kiosk by 9.00am. The school takes its duty of care over the girls very seriously and as such the students are expected to remain on school grounds to ensure their safety.

Year 12 students are permitted to arrive to school late on days when they do not have a timetabled period 1. Year 12 students must arrive by the end of Period 1 and ensure that they sign in at the Kiosk station outside the Administration office to ensure that they are recorded as present for the day. Year 12 students are able to leave school at the beginning of lunch on days when they do not have a timetabled period 7 or 8. Year 12 students are expected to officially sign out at the computer kiosk outside the Administration office prior to their departure on these days. It is now of vital importance that our senior students ensure that they sign in and out appropriately, particularly if they are late or have a permitted late start. SMS messages will continue to be sent home to parents once all official rolls have been submitted for processing.

## High Potential Learners Program – Years 7-9

The 'High Potential Learners Program for Years 7-9' will officially commence on Thursday 11 February. The aim of the program is to support students in developing their capacity to demonstrate and use the targeted skills addressed throughout the program, engage in discussions, collaborate with peers, participate in activities and engage with resources and strategies that can be used beyond the classroom and school life.



Students will rotate through lessons each term in the following focus areas:

- Literacy for High Potential
- Growing Your Mind
- Embracing the 4 C's
- Rethinking Challenges
- ME as a High Potential Learner

## How does the High Potential learners Program work?

The High Potential Learners Program will take place on a Thursday morning during Period 1. SRE (Special Religious Education) occurs four times a term, also during Period 1. Students not doing SRE will be doing private study.

**The program purpose, overview and schedule are available for students and parents on the Student and Parent Portal in the Resource section – Year 7-9 High Potential Learners Program.**

## Wellbeing Programs at SGGHS

The journey through high school can be a very different experience for each student and the Wellbeing Team is pivotal in providing essential support and guidance to all students. The vast Wellbeing programs that run each year are specifically designed and targeted for each cohort, cover a range of wellbeing areas and focus on building and maintaining positive mental health and wellbeing for our students. The wellbeing assembly schedule provides an opportunity for guest presenters and workshops as well as the opportunity for students to meet with their Year Advisors and Deputy Principal to discuss upcoming events, celebrate success and showcase the achievements of their peers.

Two key programs that run for Year 7 and Year 11 are the Year 7 Transition Program and Year 11 SEED Program, outlined below. A special thank you to the wellbeing team - Mrs Kaye Williamson (Head Teacher Wellbeing) Mrs Jodie Jospe (Relieving Head Teacher Wellbeing) Ms Emily Chapman (Year 7 Year Advisor), Ms Natalia Notkina (Year 7 Assistant Year Advisor) and Ms Alexandra Neave (Year 11 Advisor) and Mr Neil Walters (Year 11 Assistant Year Advisor) for the planning and implementation of these quality programs to support the students.

### Year 7 Transition Program

The Year 7 Transition Program supports a smooth transition into high school for all of our new Year 7 students. The program ran over 3 days and students rotated through a range of activities including peer support, positive friendships, cyber safety and healthy self. Students will also be completing the *Best Start Program* as part of their transition in to High School. Best Start is an online program that assesses key literacy and numeracy skills of Year 7 students. The purpose of the Best Start Year 7 program is to provide feedback to teachers to help identify student needs and key information to support targeted teaching strategies that meet the learning needs of their students. Students will complete the online literacy and numeracy components during week 3 and 4: Thursday 11 February – Literacy Module, Monday 15 February – Numeracy Module.

### Year 11 SEED Program

*Supporting Educational and Emotional Development*

There is a strong commitment at St George Girls High School to creating quality learning experiences for all students through an environment that encourages and supports the development of healthy, happy, successful and productive individuals, while strengthening their cognitive, physical, social and emotional development.

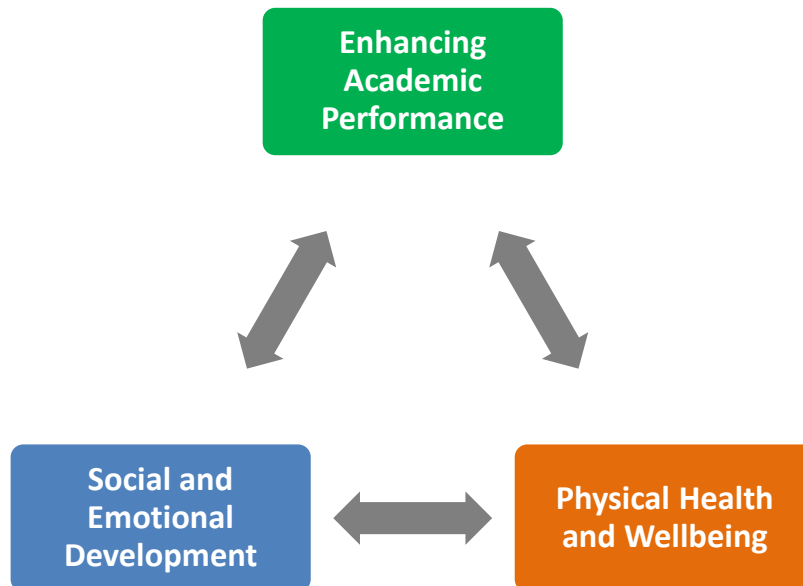
The Year 11 **SEED Program** has been developed to support students as they transition into Stage 6. The program delivers targeted learning and opportunities for students around essential skills and knowledge required in the senior years to support continued growth academically, physically and mentally.

The **SEED Program** links directly to areas of the School Plan and also supports the implementation of the following DoE policies:

- High Potential and Gifted Education Policy
- The Wellbeing Framework
- Mandatory Life Ready Program



The program focuses on the following three areas:



The **SEED Program** runs on a Monday afternoon, during periods 7 and 8, for Terms 1, 2 and 3. In Term 4, on the first day back - Tuesday 5 October – all Year 11 students will be involved in the HSC Transition Day Program.

Students will participate in a range of workshops each term, many that have been planned to coincide with key events on the Year 11 calendar. Sessions will be conducted by both SGGHS staff and expert guest speakers. Any Year 11 parents/carers who require any further information about a session, please contact the Year Advisor.

The program purpose, overview and schedule are available for students and parents on the Student and Parent Portal in the Resource section – Year 11 SEED Program.

### Online Study Skills

Our school subscribes to the ELES Study Skills Handbook. This is a great online resource for parents and students to address all their study skills issues and concerns as well as learn new ways to improve students' results at school. The handbook has a huge amount of information for both students and parents as well as lots of interactive activities, multimedia experiences and useful resources. In every Gazette we will be posting a study skills tip for parents and students, so keep an eye out in the gazette for some great advice and strategies to support student learning.

### Study Skills Tip For February

This month's study skills tip is **Top Tips For A New Year**. Working through the units on [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) throughout this year will help you build skills and learn techniques to become more effective learners. We encourage all students and parents to log into the site and browse the units to become familiar with the topics covered. Also click on THINGS TO PRINT after you log in, scroll to the bottom of the page and you will find lots of useful grids and planners to help you. The article provides the top five tips about making the most of your time at school this year and working efficiently at home.

To access the handbook, go to [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) and **login as a subscriber** with these details:

user name:

password:

Please note, the above user name and password is for the use of the parents and students **AT OUR SCHOOL ONLY** – please do not pass our school's details onto students or parents from other schools or other individuals or organisations as this is a prosecutable breach of copyright and also will result in frequent password changes for our school. Please also ensure you read through the terms of use the first time you access the handbook. We encourage all parents and students to take advantage of this opportunity to further develop their students' study skills abilities through this great online resource.

## Parenting Ideas – A Resource to Support Parents Through the High School Years

Our school subscribes to *Parenting Ideas* as a way to support our school community in successfully navigating the many challenges that may present throughout the high school years. The website is a comprehensive online learning centre to support parents and teacher professional learning, and provides a wealth of information, content and practical resources to help us support and develop strong family-school relationships. Available resources include:

- a monthly newsletter for parents
- articles that relate to topics such as parenting girls, resilience, technology and parenting, wellbeing and mental health.
- webinars and videos for parents and staff
- teacher professional learning resources

In each Gazette will be a focus article from the resource 'Insights' to support parents in a range of key areas that often impact on student wellbeing and learning. Parents will also be informed of any webinars and parent courses as they become available. This month we are highlighting two articles from 'Insights':

### 1. Helping teenagers achieve sustained school success

The secondary school year is well and truly underway and thousands of teenagers (and their parents) across the country are settling in for a full year ahead. For some this marks the beginning of an entirely new stage in their schooling, while others are buckling in for another year of academic rigor. This article provides a few tips to help you and your young person navigate the year ahead.

### 2. Promoting a leadership mindset in students

There are leaders in all walks of life. In business, at school, in families, in sport and in the wider community your young person will have the opportunity to lead others. Your young person may have many individual attributes that will enable them to lead but to be truly successful, they also need to develop the appropriate mindset. This article outlines 4 useful tips to focus on.

As part of our school's membership to Parenting Ideas, all parents in this school community can attend some fantastic webinars in 2021 at no cost. We're pleased to let you know about an upcoming webinar.

Attached is also the 2021 Webinar Program for Parents, outlining the free webinars, topics and dates. Reminders for these webinars, will be outlined in the Gazette throughout the year.

## Upcoming Cohort Activities/Events

It is great to be able to start the year with some very positive activities for our cohorts, especially in light of the number of activities we were not able to do last year. The scheduled activities and dates for the specific cohorts are:

**February 11** – Best Start Year 7: Literacy Module  
**February 15** – Best Start Year 7: Numeracy Module  
**February 17** – Year 7 Turning Point Presentation  
**February 24** – Year 10 UTS Presentation: Managing Exam Stress  
**February 24** – Year 12 UTS Presentation: Stress and the HSC  
**March 10-12** – Year 7 Camp

I am looking forward to another year full of exciting programs and opportunities for our students, attending the many outstanding school events and showcase evenings and working alongside the staff, student and parents of St George Girls High School.

Ms Pamela Abson  
Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning

## Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)

A big welcome back to 2021 to all students and parents and a very special welcome to our new Year 7 students who we are greatly looking forward to getting to know better as the year progresses and with their wonderful Year advisor, Ms Chapman being a Music teacher in the CAPA faculty we know we will be seeing them regularly. We also welcome our newest member to the faculty, Visual Arts teacher, Ms Sarah Milgate.

We are looking forward to a great year, filled with creativity, critical thinking and collaboration, to a year (hopefully) without lockdowns and to year filled with wonderful music and drama performances, art exhibitions, incredible excursion opportunities, and of course, exciting and productive classes which as you can see from our photos, have already begun.

2020 was a challenging year for everyone and hopefully this year things will return to normal somewhat. However, one thing remains consistent at St George and that is the quality and substance of CAPA student work.

### 2020 HSC Success

HSC students of 2020 all performed brilliantly, with results well above state average in all courses.

Once again, **HSC performances and Major Works from all three subject areas of Drama, Music and Visual Arts were nominated for the NESA Showcases, OnStage, Encore and ArtExpress, highlighting the exceptional standard of work that our students attain.**

We also congratulate **Katelyn Labrakis** of Year 10 on being selected for the 2021 **State Drama Company**. To successfully audition for this elite Drama performance ensemble, run by the **NSW Arts Unit** is a wonderful achievement and we know that she will represent St George Drama proudly.

We are extremely proud of all our students and the way that they approach their studies and particularly how they maturely seek feedback from their teachers to improve on their work. It is this that really sets our students apart as they can use this feedback to refine and develop their works to a high level. In CAPA subjects, students learn to 'think outside the box', to develop their creative thought and to apply their knowledge of the world around them. Self-expression is crucial to student engagement across any school.

It is important that our students take creative risks and be brave in stepping outside of their comfort zones. This is especially important in the junior years so that can take on their senior studies with a more innovative and creative mindset and with a greater ability to conceptualise and analyse their work. Students can definitely learn how to take a more creative approach to their work and learning and CAPA subjects can reinforce this important skill, while building resilience and confidence. Students can also apply these creative and critical thinking skills to their other subjects.

In CAPA in 2021, students will again be challenged to engage with their world creatively, to look at ideas from various perspectives and to think critically about world issues and events. They will be empowered to communicate their ideas and express their point of view. This will help our high potential learners to develop a deeper understanding and make greater sense and meaning, as they shape their own responses to the world around them. Global corporations and tertiary institutions want their students and employees to be imaginative, innovative and effective communicators.

As well as studying a rich array of subject specific styles, forms and mediums, students are encouraged to bring what they are learning in all other subject areas into the classroom so, importantly, students connect their learning and they are always highly engaged. In CAPA subjects, students will build confidence in expressing their understanding, views, thoughts and ideas to a wider audience. We are passionate about empowering our students to develop these necessary life skills that they can take into their future and enabling them on their path to happiness and success. Here's to a great year.

Lisa Wright  
Head Teacher CAPA



## Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA)



**Drama Workshop**



**Year 10 Music**



**Year 12 Visual Arts**



**Year 11 Drama**



**Katelyn Labrakis  
NSW State Drama  
Company success**



**Year 10 Music**

**Year 12 Visual Arts**



## Green Corner



### Fact:

Australia has one of the highest rates of tree clearing of any developed country historically. In the past, we've bulldozed more bush each year than poverty-stricken countries like Burma, Mexico, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and the Congo.

Currently, 1,000 animal and plant species are at risk of extinction—including the koala.

### Up Coming Events:

✓ Sign up for the following teams operated by the Enviro Council:

Gardening, Paper Recycling and Worm farm

✓ Dragon pride day – Enviro Council stall – drop by sign up to participate – have your questions answered.

## Green Day 2020

On the 19 November 2020 SGGHS held its annual Green Day. It was filled with a myriad of rotational workshops to encompass all ages interest with a relevant environmental message.

Year 7 – Gardening, why Enviro, Sustainable Living and Last Xmas

Year 8 – Duke of Edinburgh information session and how to appreciate the outdoors, What a Mess and Make it UP

Year 9 – Bees, Ecco Face, Bees Wax Wraps

Year 10 – Online wildlife handling WIRES training course for Year 10's.

**Green X** talks by choice students outlined the passion St George students hold towards environmental issues impacting the planet. Thank you to the students who participated, due to COVID-19 all Green X talks were pre-recorded and watched online.

Whilst the day's activities provided a catalyst for environmental awareness and activism, it also gave students a much-needed break, a lighter tone during the end of year period following a hectic year dealing with the Pandemic. The Enviro Council would like to send its warmest regards to all the students that helped facilitate the activities and the students that participated in the prepared activity. We hope to see you again for **Green Day 2021!**

### Jashan Singh

Enviro Council Executive

Enviro Journalist

# Green Corner



## Languages

I hope you all had a relaxing break and welcome you back to school for an exciting year of language activities and learning. Welcome also to our new students.

2020 was a tumultuous year, and although many excursions were cancelled or postponed. We still managed to hold the Year 7 Languages Day in Term 4. The day brought all Year 7 Language classes together for a day of activities celebrating the cultures of the languages they have been studying. Students participated in a trivia competition where they worked in groups to answer questions on Japanese, French and Latin language and culture. They also participated in cultural activities such as pétanque, a Roman relay race and origami. The highlight of the day was the costume parade. Students created a myriad of costumes that exemplified cultural aspects of their language studies. Some examples of costumes were Roman Goddesses, French mimes, Japanese ninjas as well as pokemons, snails, gladiators and more. All students thoroughly enjoyed the day engaging with their peers in a range of activities and enjoying the prepared recess and lunch.

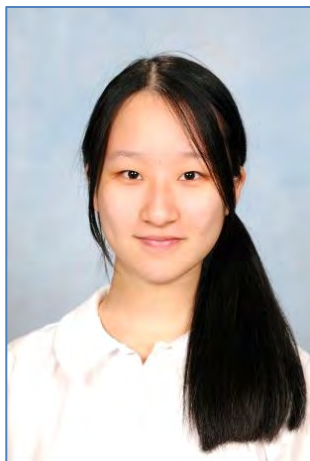
### HSC Results

I would like to congratulate our Year 12 classes of 2020 who have achieved outstanding results despite the very challenging year. It was particularly difficult during remote learning to practice speaking in the target languages. However, students worked very hard to catch up on those activities that were limited while at home.

I would like to thank the Year 12 teachers who provided invaluable feedback to their students to help them achieve their personal best.

In 2020 100% of students achieved a band 5 and 6 in Japanese Continuers, 100% of students achieved a band 3 and 4 (top 2 bands) in Japanese Extension and 75% of students achieved a band 5 or 6 in French Continuers up from 67% the previous year.

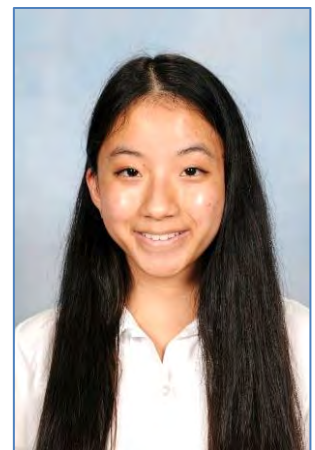
In particular I would like to acknowledge the top achievers in each course. Annie Zhou came first in Japanese Extension, Annie Zhou and Isabella Li came first in Japanese Continuers and Joyce Wang came first in French Continuers.



**Annie Zhou**



**Isabella Li**



**Joyce Wang**

# Year 7 Languages Day



## Science News

The Science faculty are looking forward to resuming our regularly scheduled program this year with some exciting new initiatives to compliment this program and to offer students further opportunities to engage in Science.

We welcome Mr Cameron Bayer who will be joining us in a full-time capacity, to the faculty, as well as welcoming back Mrs Jenny Zhang who will be returning in a part-time capacity.

As Scientists, we believe in rigorous scientific research, which underpins our knowledge and practice. We will focus this year on educational practices that are proven to be effective and are based in educational research. This includes introducing lessons with learning intentions and success criteria which help students to understand what they are learning, why they are learning and provides students with the ability to make judgements on how successful they have been in their learning.

We are also looking to promote student autonomy in their learning with a set of tasks to be completed each term including revising a skill they have learnt, teaching this skill to parents/carers, finding an example of where Science has been used in the news and improving responses in text-types. We encourage you as parents/carers to join us in supporting your budding Scientist in these activities.

### 2020 HSC Results

We are very proud of the achievements of all students who studied a Science in the 2020 HSC and managed very well considering the disruptions that occurred due to the pandemic. Our students achieved improved growth in several of our subjects compared to previous years despite the challenging circumstances.

### Competitions

Students from all years have the opportunity to participate in a number of external Science competitions. These competitions are useful for the students as they help students apply their Science knowledge to new situations.

All students from Years 7 to 10 will sit the REACH Science Assessment. This competition is created by the University of New South Wales and consists of multiple-choice questions. The competition will be held in Week 5 of Term 2 and the registration cost is included in School Contributions.

The ANCC Chemistry Competition is open to all students from Years 7 to 12 and is run by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. It involves students answering 20 multiple choice questions and will be held on Tuesday 28 July for students in Years 7 to 11. Interested Year 12 students will sit the competition in Week 1 of Term 3. The cost of this competition is \$6.

The RACI Titration Competition is open to 24 Year 12 Chemistry students only. It is run by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute and involves the students competing against students from other schools in the chemical technique of titration.

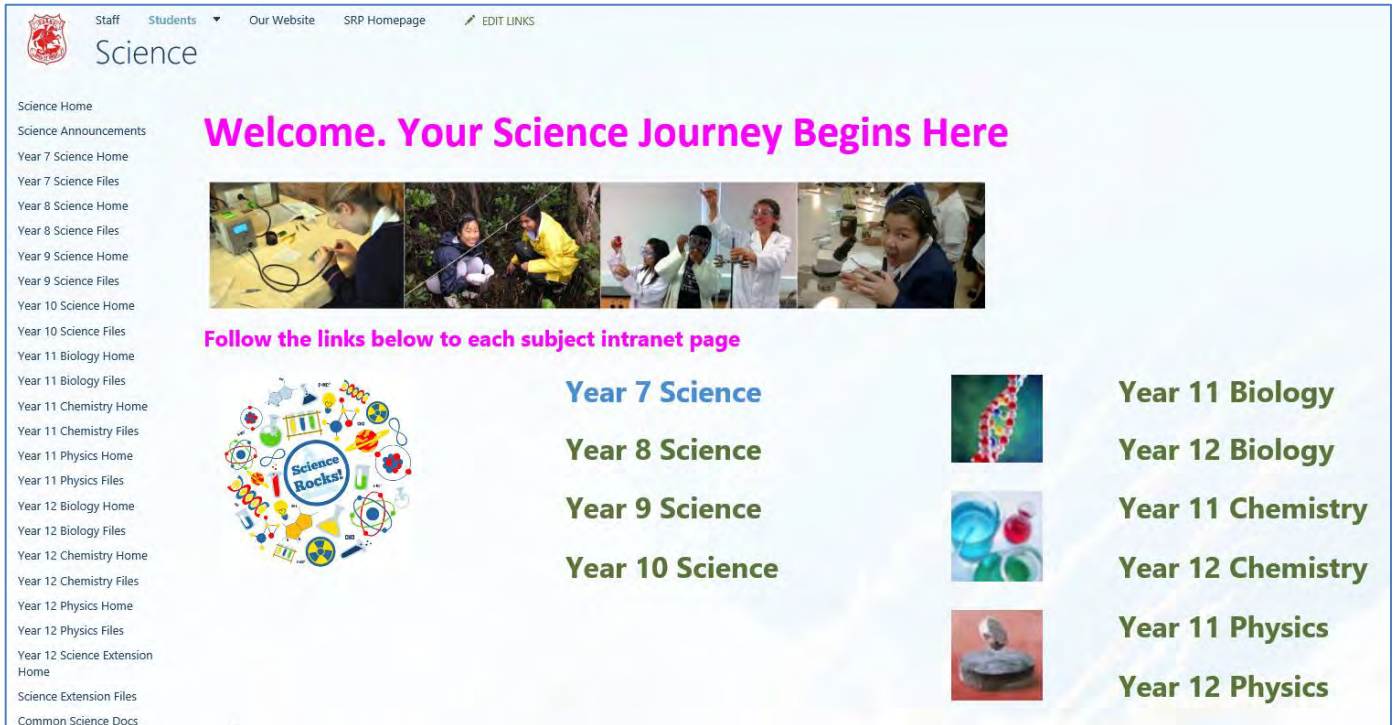
St George Girls High School also offers Years 9 – 12 students the opportunity to participate in the Olympiad Program in Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental and Physics. This Program is run by Australian Science Innovations and involves fees. Application into these programs has not opened yet.

## Intranet

At Parent/Teacher interviews, the Science staff are often asked about resources for students to help with their studies of Science. This month's article seemed like the ideal time to introduce you to the abundance of resources available for the students via the school Intranet.

To access or view these resources you will need to get your daughter to login to the Intranet using their student log in details. Select Students from the drop-down menu and select Faculty and then Science. Click on Science Faculty on the left-hand side of the screen and you will be taken to a page that looks like this.

There is a link for each year from 7 to 10 and then individual subjects for Years 11 and 12 on the left-hand side of the page. Each of these links takes you to a folder or page with resources for students.



The screenshot shows the Science Intranet homepage. At the top left is the school crest and navigation links: Staff, Students (dropdown), Our Website, SRP Homepage, and EDIT LINKS. The main heading is "Science". On the left is a vertical menu with links for Science Home, Science Announcements, and Science Home pages for Years 7 through 12, including Chemistry and Physics sub-pages. The main content area features a large pink heading "Welcome. Your Science Journey Begins Here" above a row of four photos showing students in various science activities. Below this is a pink instruction: "Follow the links below to each subject intranet page". A central graphic with "Science Rocks!" is surrounded by science icons. To the right are links for Year 7 Science, Year 8 Science, Year 9 Science, and Year 10 Science, each with a small representative image. Further right are links for Year 11 Biology, Year 12 Biology, Year 11 Chemistry, Year 12 Chemistry, Year 11 Physics, and Year 12 Physics, also with small representative images.

## The Science Intranet Homepage

## Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)

There are many exciting changes in TAS this year including new staff joining the faculty and new projects planned for our students. We welcome Ms Marland and Ms Flanagan who is covering for Mrs Forster who is on Maternity leave this year.

2021 will see our students engage in some new and exciting projects. Year 7 will be able to show their personal style in the 3D printed accessories unit, Year 8 are coding micro:bits to help keep fit, and Year 10 IST students are creating an immersive virtual reality tour of the school using the VR kits on loan from the stem:T4L team. It is great to have a Year 11 Textiles and Design class this year and the students are already busy designing their textile items for their 'What's in the Bag?' challenge. Meanwhile, some great excursions and incursions are being organised for our Food Technology students this year, which will undoubtedly provide invaluable experiences for our students studying this course.

Sadly, we were unable to host our annual **Inspired** fashion evening last year to showcase the wonderful work of our students. It is a highly anticipated evening on our school calendar and we are hopeful that we will be able to showcase the work our Textiles students create this year. In the meantime, if you haven't already had a chance to see the amazing costumes Ms Torrisi's Textiles Technology class produced last year, they are still on display in the library!



## 2020 HSC Results

We were happy to see that the high level of achievement in the HSC has continued within our TAS subjects offered in Year 12. Our students worked so hard through a difficult year and we are so very proud of their achievements. In 2020, 100% of students studying the Food Technology course achieved in the top two bands, while 62% of students achieved in the top two bands in Information Processes Technology. A special congratulations to our high achievers in each course; Amelia Chen who placed first in Food Technology and Tiffany Fung who placed first in IPT.



**Amelia Chen**



**Tiffany Fung**

J Quah  
Relieving Head Teacher TAS



## Parents and Citizens' Association

Welcome back to Term 1! We extend a warm welcome to our new families at St George Girls and of course welcome our current families back to a new year and hoping you had a restful break. Normally we would hold a P&C Welcome BBQ but unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions this has been cancelled. We hope that future events return to normal soon so that we can meet and celebrate the exciting events the school supports. Our first P&C event is the February P&C meeting at 7pm on 25 February 2021. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting. We hold our meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month that school is in session. These meetings provide a forum for parents to listen to teacher guest speakers, planning for the school and to bring up any topics/questions of interest. We look forward to seeing parents at the meeting. Further details to follow.

We have booked a Bunnings BBQ on Sunday 7 March 2021 and will shortly be seeking volunteers for this event. Keep an eye out for the volunteer email that will be sent soon.

The P&C continue to have the digital Entertainment Book for sale with a portion of proceeds going to the P&C. Purchase your 2021 Entertainment membership now by clicking this link and support your school. <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbookds/203j234>

If any parent would like more details about the P&C please feel free to email [sggh.pca@gmail.com](mailto:sggh.pca@gmail.com).

Sharon Khan  
**President P&C**

## Mothers' Committee

Welcome back to all our parents and a warm welcome to parents of our new students. We have just had our first meeting for the year. Thanks to Ms Romeo for providing an overview of our HSC achievements and plans for the coming few years. We also got a sneak peek at the new design of the school uniform which will be revealed to students in the near future.

The Mothers' Committee holds meetings on the first Wednesday of every month during the school terms from 10 am to 12 noon. It's a great opportunity to get to know other parents as well as to find out what's going on at school. Please feel free to attend even if you cannot stay for the whole meeting.

### Mother-Daughter Dinner

We're looking forward to our annual Mother-Daughter dinner which will be held on **Saturday, 22 May**. It's always a wonderful night, so save the date and keep an eye out for booking details.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 3 March at 10am in the School Library.**

### Uniform Shop News

The Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday during the school term from 12:45 – 3.30pm, and additional days at times of peak demand such as the beginning and end of the year. We need parent volunteers to help at the Uniform Shop on Wednesdays from 12:45 – 2pm. If you would like to volunteer some time on a Wednesday, please contact Cathy.

Best wishes,

Kim

Kim Le  
**President, Mothers' Committee**  
Contact Ph: 0421 849 753

Cathy Anderson  
**Vice President / Uniform Shop Coordinator**  
Contact Ph: 0423 533 855

## St Georgians

**W**elcome back! The St Georgians hope 2021 will be a happy and successful year for all. We congratulate Year 12/2020 on their HSC results and look forward to the HSC 2020 Excellence Ceremony. The St Georgians are proud to be able to contribute towards the awards presented at this event.

### Save the Date – 2021 Annual Reunion Luncheon and Annual General Meeting

The St Georgians (formerly known as The Old Girls Union) was formed in 1929, with a twofold purpose – keeping former students in touch, and raising funds for the school. Our main fundraiser each year is our Annual Reunion Luncheon which we hope to be able to hold in 2021 after cancelling our 2020 Luncheon due to the pandemic. The tentative date for this event is **Saturday 1 May 2021**. As yet we do not have a venue for the luncheon but please keep this date in mind.

Our 2021 Annual General Meeting will be held on **Thursday 22 July 2021**.

The St Georgians usually meet on the fourth Thursday of each month during school terms, at the St George Leagues Club, 124 Princes Highway Kogarah. However due to the current pandemic situation, these meetings have been suspended. If you need any information about the St Georgians please don't hesitate to contact us at the email or numbers below.

[TheStGeorgians@hotmail.com](mailto:TheStGeorgians@hotmail.com)

Kim Archibald  
**President**  
0410 582 636

Heather Jennings  
**Secretary**  
9501 4641



# St George Girls Make News!

ST GEORGE & SUTHERLAND SHIRE  
**Leader**

JANUARY 15 2021 - 12:01PM

## St George Girls High School student says passion brings HSC success

Merryn Porter



All rounder: Sophie Indraputri, of Riverwood, made it onto the HSC All-round Achievers merit list.

Picture: John Veage

Riverwood's Sophie Indraputri has urged future HSC students to follow their passions when choosing subjects for years 11 and 12.

The former St George Girls High School student made it onto the HSC All-round Achievers merit list after receiving a band 6 result in 10 or more units and achieving an ATAR of 96.5.

Sophie, 18, who studied Advanced English, Mathematics Standard, Legal Studies, Visual Arts and Drama said having a passion for all the subjects she studied allowed her to achieve fantastic results.

"I loved all my subjects," she said. "It was pretty easy to study when you are passionate about something."

She said she was most pleased with her Mathematics and Legal Studies results.

"I did not expect the result I got in Legal Studies," she said.

Sophie, who transferred to the selective St George Girls High School at Kogarah for years 11 and 12, said the teachers at her previous school Penshurst Girls campus of Georges River College encouraged students to choose subjects they were passionate about for the HSC.

She said the fact she loved Visual Arts and Drama made it easier to work on her major works for each subject. She also allowed herself plenty of downtime from studying to work on hobbies such as upcycling clothing or art projects.

Sophie also praised St George Girls High School. "The teachers are amazing and the resources are superb," she said.

Sophie will study a Bachelor of Design in Animation at University of Technology, Sydney.

St George Girls High School was one of three schools in St George and Sutherland Shire to rank in the top 50 schools in NSW based on the 2020 HSC results. All were selective high schools.

Caringbah High School topped the region in 30th place. St George Girls High School was in second place in 39th spot while Sydney Technical High School at Bexley ranked 42.

Blakehurst High School was the best-performing non-selective government school, and ranked in the top 200 schools.