

# 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

November 2020  
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## **Prefect Induction Ceremony**

Wednesday 18 November  
Assembly Hall  
10:55am

## **Green Day**

Thursday 19 November  
10am

## **Year 12 Graduation Ceremony**

Friday 20 November  
Assembly Hall  
12pm

## **Parents & Citizens' Association Meeting**

Thursday 26 November  
Common Room  
7pm

## **Mothers' Committee Meeting**

Wednesday 2 December  
Library  
10am

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Students,

### **Class of 2020 Commence their COVID-19 Safe HSC Examinations**

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope all members of the SGGHS community has a great break away from the usual school routine and have launched into the final school term for the 2020 school year.

On Tuesday 20 October our Year 12 students successfully commenced their HSC Examinations. This year the HSC examinations will be run a little differently and in line with NESA and Department of Education (DoE) advice to minimise the risk of the examinations being interrupted by COVID-19. The school was required to develop a COVID-19 Safe HSC Plan in consultation with the HSC Examination Presiding Officer, to ensure that this year's HSC runs as smoothly as possible and that the school is well-placed to address any issues related to COVID-19. Our Year 12 students and their families have been issued the **SGGHS COVID-19 Safe HSC Plan** which outlines detailed information related to:

- SGGHS exam venues
- alternative exam venues (if required)
- school communication protocols
- COVID-19 safe exam protocols
- enhanced cleaning of exam venues
- Illness/Misadventure advice and procedures

We wish all our students the very best of luck over this very important time and I hope that they each achieve their personal best in every exam. Congratulations Year 12 and remember the best for each of you is yet to come. We all thank you for enriching our school over the past six years and we will certainly miss your smiling faces, vibrant energy and bright personalities around the school.

## Year 12 Graduation Ceremony Update

As I mentioned in my last Gazette correspondence, the school made the decision to postpone the Graduation Day Ceremony from the end of Term 3 to Term 4, in anticipation that NSW schools may receive updated advice from the DoE, permitting such events to take place. I am pleased to report that the updated Term 4 DoE guidelines have now addressed special one-off celebrations (such as Graduation Assemblies and Formals) and the advice now permits schools to host Graduation Day Ceremonies in a COVID-19 safe manner on school grounds from 12 November 2020. I am delighted that the Class of 2020 will be able to have the opportunity to celebrate this special milestone appropriately with their peers, teachers and family members at the conclusion of their HSC examinations.

Miss Louise Bullivant our Graduation Day coordinator is now working through the necessary arrangements and considerations that will need to be put in place to ensure that the ceremony is hosted a COVID-19 Safe manner and in line with the guidelines and advice that has now been provided to schools. More detailed and specific correspondence has already been issued to our Year 12 students and their families in relation to the Graduation Ceremony has been scheduled for **Friday 20 November** so please claim the date in your diary.

Hosting this event onsite will also necessitate an early finish for students in Years 7-11 (excluding the Year 11 students who are assisting at the function) at 11:50am (at the end of Period 4). This early finish will allow all teaching staff to attend this important event. If you wish your daughter to remain at school on this day until the normal finishing time, teacher supervision will be provided. More detailed information has been emailed to students and parents/carers last week.

## OnSTAGE and ARTEXPRESS Nominations

I was thrilled to receive correspondence from NESAs last term informing the school that three of our Year 12 Drama students have been nominated for **OnSTAGE**, a selection of performances and individual projects from Higher School Certificate Drama students, for their Individual Performances. A very BIG congratulations must go to Cate Armstrong, Katrina Hayler and Sophie Indraputri and to their Drama teacher Ms Lisa Wright. This achievement is particularly significant as it has been realised in what has been such a challenging year for students undertaking practical subjects with so many changes and restrictions applied.



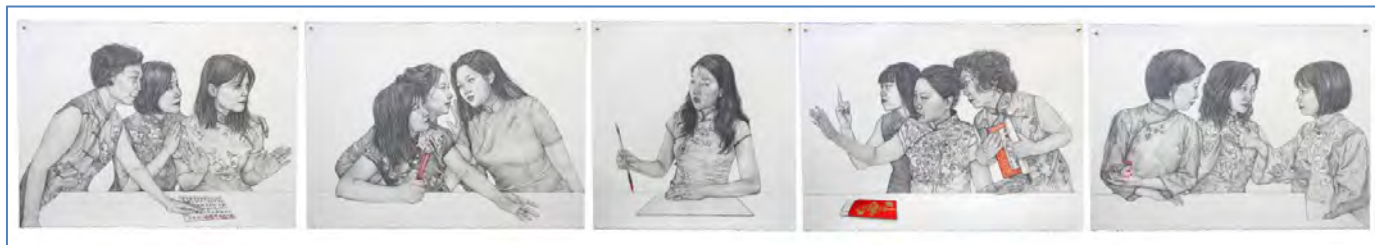
In Week 1 of this term, I also received the great news that three of our Year 12 Visual Arts students had been nominated for inclusion in **ARTEXPRESS**. This is great news for our school, the students and their very talented Visual Arts teacher Mr Andrew Batten, who has provided endless support, guidance and advice to encourage the creative talents of the students studying Visual Arts during this disrupted and challenging year.

Due to the impact of COVID-19, this year teachers provided the marks for their students' HSC Visual Arts Body of Work. Because of this change to process, schools were given the opportunity to recommend exemplary Bodies of Work for consideration for ARTEXPRESS when they submitted their marks at the end of Term 3.

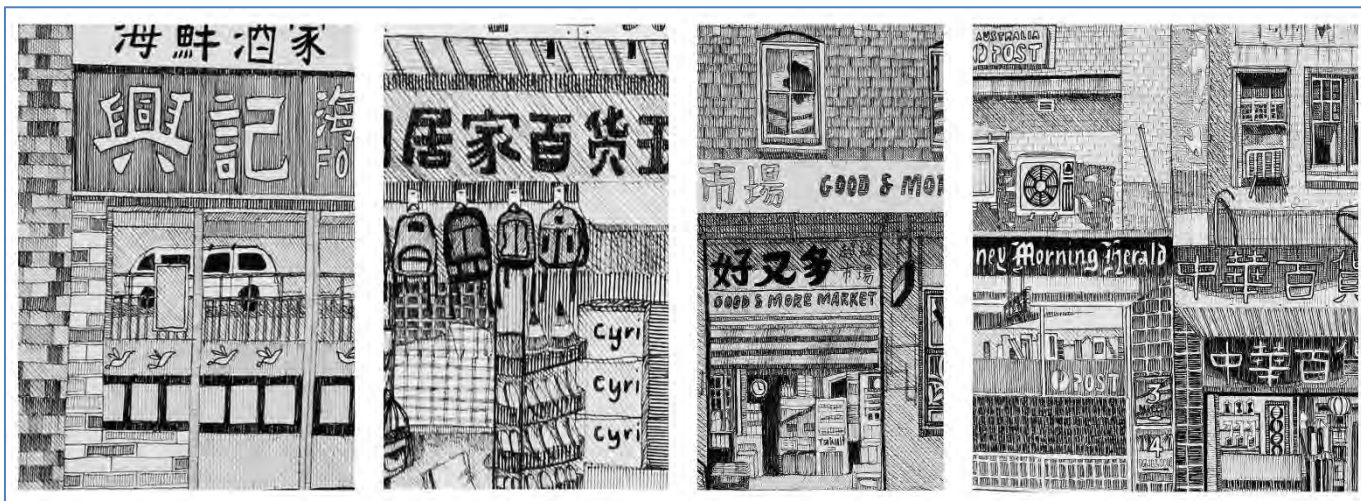
Following a review of all recommendations by NESAs the following three students have progressed to the nomination stage. Congratulations to Angela Cheung, Jade Ma and Ayisna Takhel. I am always thrilled to share and celebrate our student successes and this is a noteworthy achievement that we should all feel very proud of. The student's exemplary BOW's are displayed on the next page.



**Angela Cheung's BOW Titled "*The road is long, how shall I get there?*"**



**Jade Ma's BOW Titled "*A Walk Along Brick Street*"**



**Ayisna Takhel BOW Titled "*Triptych: Reflections of the Studio*"**



These successes are a real testament to the quality candidature we have sitting the HSC this year and the exceptional guidance the students have received from their teachers. I am already so very impressed by the Class of 2020 and I look forward to receiving and sharing more favourable news about their HSC successes when we receive their results in December.

## Term 4 Staffing Update

Welcome back to our Deputy Principal (Curriculum) Mr Mark Treacy who has returned from his extended leave this term. It is great to have Mr Treacy back on deck as part of the senior executive leadership team and I know he will hit the ground running as Term 4 is always a busy curriculum and planning term.

I would like to officially welcome to SGGHS Mrs Rowena Penniment who commences her permanent appointment as our Teacher Librarian. I know that Mrs Penniment will enjoy her new role at our school and her experience working in a selective school context will certainly prove invaluable to further enhance the library learning environment and resource for our students and staff. I would also like to thank Mrs Fiona Bell-Whittaker for her service to the students and ad staff at SGGHS during her time as our Teacher Librarian and we wish her all the very best with her future endeavours.

A very warm welcome to the following temporary teachers who join us in Term 4. Mr Stephen Alexander replaces Ms Brigitte Barbagallo in TAS (who has commenced her maternity leave), Miss Ning Cui joins us in Mathematics replacing Mrs Thuy Nguyen (who is also on maternity leave). Miss Alexandra Neave increases her days this term (to five days) covering Mrs Patricia Sequeira in History (who is also on maternity leave). SGGHS is experiencing a baby boom at the moment, and we wish all of our teaching staff on maternity leave all the very best during this special time as they nurture their growing families.

Mr Peter Nouis, our Head Teacher History is on extended leave during this term and we welcome Mr Robbie Boland into the role of Relieving Head Teacher History. An official welcome also to Miss Emily Hung who joins us a temporary teacher in the History Faculty for this term.

Finally we have had a small adjustment to our School Counsellor/Psychologist service days for Term 4. Mrs Michelle Batten will work every Monday and Tuesday and Ms Elizabeth McAlpine will work every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This new arrangement will see our school serviced 5 days per week by two highly skilled professionals who know and understand our school context and the needs of our students and their families.

## Updated DoE Term 4 Guidelines for Families

At the end of Term 3, I emailed to all parents/carers the **“Updated Term 4 Advice for Families”** document that was released from the DoE. This document has now been further updated on the 5 November in response to feedback the DoE has received from staff, families and the community, and as always, this advice has been worked through in consultation with NSW Health. I encourage all parents/carers and students to regularly check the DoE website that can be accessed via the following link <https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>. This website is regularly updated and clearly outlines important information.

## What's Changed

The following activities have been updated to recommence:

- External providers delivering education services can recommence
- School formals, dances, graduations and other end-of-year events can proceed with a COVID-19 Safety Plan
- P&C meetings can be held on school sites after hours with restrictions
- Parents and carers allowed on school site to purchase or pickup uniform from the uniform shop
- Field trips, excursions and overnight camps (including to the ACT) with restrictions
- Duke of Edinburgh can proceed

The following events will continue to be reconsidered in Term 4. For now, these events must remain on hold.

- Interstate excursions to VIC, QLD and SA
- International excursions (cancelled until further notice)
- School activities that involve gathering of parent and community members such as parent functions, working bees, school barbecues, parent information evenings and on-site cultural events
- Parent and carer attendance at assemblies and other school activities unless it's an end of year school event as specified above and the venue can cater for the 4 square metre distancing rule.

## The Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP)

The school has commenced some significant work in preparing to develop the 2021-2024 Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP). This term the staff will complete an honest and robust situational analysis which is a key component of the School Excellence Cycle and will be used to inform our school's improvement journey in learning, teaching and leading.

## What is a Situational Analysis?

The situational analysis is a key component of the School Excellence cycle and is an essential step in the development of a Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) that will effectively prioritise our school's identified areas for growth. Conducting a situational analysis allows our school to develop a rich and highly contextualised understanding of our current situation.

As part of this situational analysis, every school collects qualitative and quantitative data, collates evidence, collaborates widely, and engages with research.

Schools are encouraged to work through a process of 'looking inward', 'looking outward' and 'looking forward', a situational analysis answers the questions:

- 'Where are we now?'
- 'Where do we want to be?'
- 'How good can we be?'

## Looking Inward, Looking Outward and Looking Forward

### Looking Inward

1. Data: what data do we have and what does it tell us? How do we know and what evidence do we have?
2. Views and feedback: have we considered the views and feedback of staff, students and parents/carers about where the school is now and where it needs to be? How do we know and what evidence do we have?
3. Professional judgement: using professional judgement, have we considered what has been done, how well has it been done, and what happened as a result? How do we know and what evidence do we have?

### Looking Outward

1. Priorities: have we considered current educational priorities and our school's system-negotiated targets?
2. Research: what does reliable and relevant research tell us about effective strategies for school improvement that are relevant to our current context?
3. Opportunities: what are the opportunities within and beyond my professional learning network that are contextually relevant?

### Looking Forward

1. Decommission: which current practices or initiatives will we decommission (stop doing)?
2. Adapt and improve: how can we consolidate, adapt and improve on our current high impact practices and initiatives?
3. Innovate: what new, innovative practices or initiatives should we adopt in our next Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP)?

## Next Steps

By 'looking inward', 'looking outward' and 'looking forward', our school gains the clarity to envision and map our future directions in the next phase of the School Excellence cycle. A situational analysis enables our school to develop a context-specific Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) that answers the questions:

- Where do we need to go now?
- How will we get there?

I am very excited to commence work on this very important body of work for our school and I look forward to sharing our progress and seeking the feedback from the students, teachers and our parents/carers at the appropriate times during this process.





## Year 11 Transition into HSC Courses

Year 11 students have made the important transition into their HSC courses, which also includes the commencement of all HSC Extension courses from the start of Week 2. The students have been issued with their new timetables and permission to leave school grounds information letter that clearly outlines the school procedures and expectations around arriving to school late and leaving early if their timetable permits. It is important to reinforce that if students have study periods in the middle of the school day they are expected to remain on school grounds and work independently in the library or the Year 11 Quad until the senior study becomes available for their use. At no time are students permitted to leave school grounds in the middle of the day.

The commencement of the HSC courses is a real opportunity to make a fresh start, learning from the Year 11 experience. My advice to our Year 11 students is to remember that it is important for all students work together in a collaborative partnership with their peers and teachers, supporting each other in their learning. The greatest educational outcomes and successes are realised when the year group as a whole performs well and we now look forward to supporting our students throughout their HSC journey.

## 2020/21 Prefect Leadership Announcement

It is with great pleasure that I officially announce the newly elected Prefect leadership team for 2020/21.

**Captain:** Alannah Ajami

**Vice-Captains:** Samantha Edvell and Clare Jenkins

### Prefects:

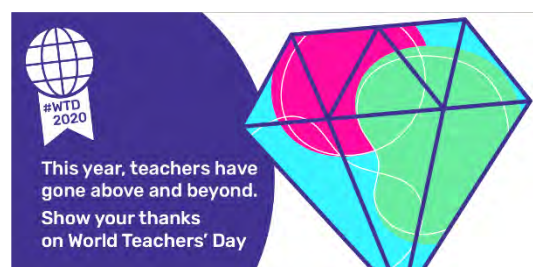
Mariam Abbas, Humnah Bhatti, Sasha Bilanovsky, Corinne Cai, Laetitia Cooper, Jodie Hoh, Katerina Kalogerakis, Shivangi Katoch, Tammy Lee, Adeline Liu, Felicity Luong and Amy Vu.

There is no greater honour than to have your peers and teachers identify in you the necessary skills and qualities needed to be an effective school leader. To be nominated and elected into such a prestigious office is certainly a great achievement. This year we had 75 nominations for Prefect and this certainly is a testament to the exceptional leadership potential and skills that exist amongst our student population.

To accept the position of prefect is a decision which is not taken lightly and carries enormous responsibility. The position is one of trust and commitment. I am confident that our newly elected prefects will be excellent student leaders and role models and I look forward to working collaboratively with this leadership group over the next 12 months.

With the current DoE restrictions in place relating to school assemblies, we have been unable to host the Prefect Induction Assembly. With the change in advice for Term 4, we now are looking forward to organising an opportunity to formally induct our new leadership team into office on **Wednesday 18 November 2020** in front of their Year 11 peers and families.

## SGGHS Celebrates World Teachers' Day 2020

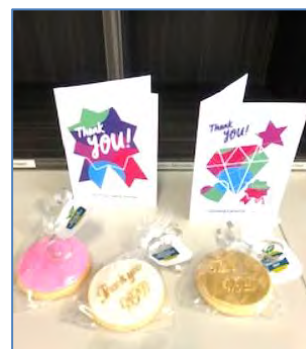


This year NSW celebrated World Teachers' Day on **30 October 2020**. World Teachers' Day is an opportunity to celebrate the over 160,000 hardworking and dedicated primary, secondary and early childhood teachers in NSW.

There is no doubt that 2020 has been a year like no other with teachers having to adjust their teaching practices in response to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Teachers always work incredibly hard, however this year we celebrate the collective commitment our teachers have demonstrated to ensure that teaching and learning was safeguarded for the learners they serve across the world.

The World Teachers' Day theme for 2020 is **"Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future"**. The day provides the occasion to celebrate the teaching profession worldwide, take stock of achievements, and draw attention to the voices of teachers, who are at the heart of efforts to attain the global education target of leaving no one behind.





At SGGHS we celebrated this day with a special morning tea as a staff where we had the rare opportunity to stop and spend some time together as colleagues to celebrate the wonderful profession we all have the pleasure of belonging to. I would like to thank the staff at St George for the quality educational experiences and opportunities they provide each and every day. In 2020 I thank our teachers on behalf of all of our school community for their resilience and innovation as they have worked individually and collectively to find solutions and create new learning experiences and opportunities for their students to ensure that learning continued in what has been a complex and changeable period in our human history.

### **New School Uniform Update**

As the weather is starting to warm up, I would like to remind our students and their parents/carers that we officially commenced the wearing of our summer school uniform from the start of this term. The school uniform unifies and connects all students. It represents the school in the community and provides a sense of equality across the student body. I expect all our students wear our uniform correctly each day and I must acknowledge that overall our students do wear their uniform with pride.

This term, I will be formalising the arrangements with our new school uniform designers that will allow the design team to release for publication some of their final design concepts/sketches/images and samples of the new school uniform to share with the community. This has been a very lengthy, detailed and comprehensive process and I look forward to sharing some of the design concepts with the students, staff and our parents/carers shortly, so please watch this space. As I have mentioned before, the new junior uniform (Years 7-9) will be phased in from 2022 commencing with our new Year 7 students that year and the senior uniform transition will commence from 2022 with our Year 10 student cohort that year (current Year 8 students).

### **Multicultural Food Festival and Summer Festival of Music Cancelled**

As the current DoE advice still stipulates that school-based activities that involve large gathering of adults, such as parent/community gatherings and on-site cultural events, are not permitted. I am therefore disappointed to advise that this means that our annual Multicultural Food Festival and Summer Music Festival, that celebrates both the cultural diversity that is represented throughout our school community, as well as showcase the exemplary musical talents of our students, will be unable to take place this year. This is always highly anticipated end of year combined event for our school and I can only hope that these guidelines are relaxed over the coming months, which may see such events permitted again in 2021.

### **Presentation Day 2020 Update**

At the moment the DoE advice regarding all other end of year assemblies are currently still under review. We usually host our annual Presentation Day at the Sydney Town Hall and I have made the difficult decision that in 2020 this event will not take place at this venue or in its usual format. The Presentation Day organisers are now working on a Plan B that will still have us appropriately celebrate the student achievements from the 2020 academic year. This celebration will take place at school in cohort groups on Thursday 10 December in a way that adheres to the current DoE guidelines in place for school assemblies. The Presentation Day Assemblies will be Livestreamed and recorded with the individual link emailed to families to ensure that they too can watch the cohort assemblies to witness their daughter's receiving their certificates and academic prizes.

The final day of the 2020 academic school year for students is Wednesday 16 December as the staff will be engaging in a School Development Day on the Thursday 17 December. I am aware that parents and carers may request leave for their daughters after Presentation Day for a range of reasons. If any parents/carers intend to request leave, please make these requests to me in writing, indicating the dates and reason for leave as soon as possible to allow me enough time to approve and communicate this to relevant members of the school.

I would also request you indicate the date your daughter will be returning to school in 2021 so that I can ensure that her position is maintained at SSGHS. If your daughter is not returning to SGGHS in 2021, can I ask for this communication to be made to me in writing as soon as possible, to ensure that I fill any vacancies from the reserve lists that have now been finalised.

## Student Achievements

I am always proud to share our student achievements with the community in my Gazette correspondence and I always welcome feedback from parents and the community to ensure that I am made aware of any special activities or achievements that our students are represented in. This month I have been informed of some significant achievements I wanted to share.

- Congratulations to Trisha Tong in Year 7, who competed at the 2020 NSW Figure Skating Championship event held at Hunters Ice Skating Stadium during the October long weekend. Trisha was successfully named State Champion for Advanced Novice Level, which is most noteworthy achievement.



- Congratulations to Suenna Jeong in Year 9 for having her artwork selected for the 2020 Operation Art exhibition. Her artwork will be exhibited at the Armory Gallery, Sydney Olympic Park from the 15 October-15 November.
- Congratulations to Katrina Hayler in Year 12 who has recently won the under-18 category of the 2020 RD Walshe Memorial Writing for the Environment Prize, a national writing competition run by Sutherland Shire Environment Centre. I have included the article about this achievement that featured in the Leader on the 15 October for the community to read.



- Congratulations to Jasmine Nguyen in Year 8 who has won second prize in the **Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) High School Quiz** for the Year 7 and 8 age category. This is great achievement and the school is very proud of Jasmine's efforts.

## Congratulations

I would like to congratulate the following student for achieving a Gold Certificate indicating that she has received thirty Merit and/or Participation Certificates:

Aurelia Gunawan of Year 8.

Eleni Markantonakis of Year 10.

Tammy Lee of Year 11.

Tiffany Lee, Vanessa Pirom, Phoebe Yu and Annie Zhou of Year 12.



I would also like to congratulate the following students for receiving Principal Certificates:

Farnia Afjool, Ashwini Bineesh, Emma Chen, Seoyoung Choi, Karina Dogra, Rumaysa Farouqee, Esther Hyun, Samia Jahan, Gloria Kim (2), Molly Maguire-Ward (2), Sophie Nguyen, Maya Singh, Elizabeth Suto, Riya Suvarna, Loretta Tan, Nushrat Tasnova, Jasmine Thoroughgood, Katelyn Tu, Chloe Yan, Raha Yu and Helena Zhang of Year 7.

Dana Arenas Valentin, Miriam Attia, Linxin Chen (2), Aurelia Gunawan, Mavis Hong, Phoebe Kha (2), Cynthia Lam, Chloe Liu (2), Parthena Philip (2), Sai Vibha Pothuganti, Habiba Rahman, Abeeha Siddiqui, Rithika Sivakkumaran, Gillian Tan, Azkiya Umam, Zoe Zhao, Sophia Zhou (2) and Isabella Zhu of Year 8.

Selsabeel Al Hariri, Ruby Easton (2), Houda Hamadi, Bethany Hong (2), Nazihah Ibnat, Caitlin Matthews (2), Sophia McLean, Erin Ong-Le (2), Esther Park, Mirabelle Rice, Diana Rubalskaya, Jacinta Samera (3) of Year 9.

Eleni Markantonakis, Zaina Siddiqui, Agnes Tjokrosetio, Jacqueliya Widjaja, Kylan Xie and Tiffany Zhu of Year 10.

Shu-Been Kim, Tammy Lee, Alisha Shaikh, Michelle Vuu, Catherine Weng (2) of Year 11.

Cate Armstrong, Amelia Chen, Maggie Chen (2), Angela Cheung (5), Ahona Dutta, Tiffany Fung, Zoe Gajus (3), Jade He, Sabrina Hui, Sophie Indraputri (2), Hargun Kaur (2), Amy Koralis (3), Samantha Law, Clarissa Lee, Iris Li, Isabelle Li (4), Tiffany Li (6), Jade Ma (3), Lana Nguyen (3), Elizabeth Park, Vanessa Pirom (4), Alisa Shutsikarindorn (4), Lazina Siddiqui, Gina Tang (2), Helena Tang (4), Carmen Truong, Joyce Wang (5), Vanessa Yan, Phoebe Yu (4), Ishrat Zaman, Arkie Zhang-Langley (2), Judy Zhao (3) and Annie Zhou (6) of Year 12.

I wish all members of our community a great final term for the 2020 academic school year. A friendly reminder that the November P&C meeting will take place on Thursday 26 November at 7:00pm hosted on site again in the Common Room. I do encourage many parents/carers to claim this date into their diary as it will be a welcomed opportunity to meet as a school community now that the DoE restrictions have been updated. As always, I welcome the opportunity to discuss any of the events mentioned in this correspondence and I am also available to assist our parents/carers with any specific school matters.

Ms Betty Romeo  
**Principal**

## Deputy Principal's Report – Teaching and Learning

### HSC Transition Day for Year 11

**Y**ear 11 started Term 4 by participating in the HSC Transition Day that was held on Monday 20 October. This was the first time this day has been held and it was a new initiative developed and implemented due to the cancellation of a number of key sessions scheduled in the SEED program that were unable to run due to remote learning and further COVID restrictions placed on school throughout Term 2 and Term 3. Sessions focussed on key HSC information that students need to be aware of and follow as they transition into HSC courses and NESA requirements. The process of HSC moderation and how school-based assessments are used to moderate HSC marks was outlined to students as well as information regarding Disability Provisions, the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) and information and key dates regarding scholarships. Clinical Psychologist, Jennifer Hawken from the Kidman Centre at UTS, ran a session titled 'Coming Back Stronger'. This session provided practical support to students on how to identify any struggles they may be facing, how to address these and how to turn struggles into goals. Students worked through strategies on building daily habits for success, looking at personal values as they head into the HSC year and what to do when things start to get a bit too much in Year 12. The day finished with a pizza lunch and trivia which was organised and delivered by a group of Year 11 students to their peers (ensuring all COVID-19 protocols were in place). A very big thank you to the Year Advisor, Mrs Jodie Jospe and Assistant Year Advisor, Ms Jenny Quah for the hard work and organisation that went on behind the scenes to make this first HSC Transition Day such a success. The student evaluations provided some very positive feedback about the day and scheduled sessions and it has already been added to next year's calendar and will continue to be embedded as a key event for students as they begin their HSC courses.

## **Year 11/12 HSC Assessment Block 1**

All students in Year 11 have been issued with the 2021 HSC Course Assessment Information as well as the Term 4 assessment calendar outlining dates for any HSC assessment tasks. The first HSC Assessment Block will commence on Thursday 26 November and conclude on Wednesday 2 December. Students are not expected to be in attendance except for assessment tasks. Students are reminded that they are to be in full school uniform and arrive at school at least 20 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If a student is unable to attend on the day of a scheduled examination due to illness/misadventure, please call the front office who will inform the Year 11 Deputy Principal – Ms Abson, who will then seek to reschedule the examination to the next available examination slot. A reminder that all documentation, medical or otherwise must be provided and dated to correspond with the task missed.

## **Year 7-9 Assessment Tasks**

Students in Years 7-9 will be completing their final assessment tasks throughout this term, as outlined in the course assessment schedules. All students are reminded to read the assessment policy carefully so that they fully understand the requirements and their responsibilities in regards to successfully completing all assessment tasks.

## **School Summer Uniform**

Summer school uniform started at the beginning of this term and all students should now be in the correct uniform. Just a reminder that excessive jewellery, dangly earrings, below the ankle socks and black cardigans are not part of the school uniform. If a student is not wearing the correct school uniform they are to bring a note from home explaining the reason why and submit this to the Deputy Principal for a Uniform Pass. If a student does not have a note from a parent they are to collect a Uniform Infringement slip from the kiosk in the front office. Once a student has had three uniform infringements a letter will be sent home. Details regarding the school's uniform policy can be found in the SGGHS Behaviour Management Procedures document.

## **Upcoming Activities**

It is great to end the year with some very positive activities for our students, some which focus on their wellbeing, others more reflective about their learning and some providing the opportunity to engage as a year group. The scheduled activities are:

Year 11 Personal Best Interviews: Friday 13 November  
Year 7 Growth Mindset Presentation: Monday 16 November  
Year 8 Brainstorm Productions: Monday 16 November  
Year 9 Peer Support Training: Tuesday 24 November and Wednesday 25 November  
Year 7 Languages Day: Thursday 3 December  
Year 9 Careers Presentation: Monday 7 December  
Year 10 Personal Best Interviews: Monday 7 December

## **SGGHS Professional Learning – Monthly Update**

Although it is a very busy time with assessments, marking and reports, the dedicated staff at SGGHS continue to engage in quality professional activities to enhance their skills and knowledge which they bring into all learning environments to improve student outcomes whenever possible. Since the last gazette, staff have participated in the following activities:

### **School Plan Professional Learning**

- New School Plan – Excellence in Resourcing Workshop
- New School Plan – Situational Analysis Workshop
- New School Plan – Developing the Strategic Improvement Plan (SIP) Workshop
- 2018-2020 School Plan Strategic Direction 1 – Growth Mindset Data Analysis

### **Curriculum Professional Learning**

- Head Teacher Science Selective Schools Network Planning Day
- Syllabus Programming for: TAS, Languages, History, Visual Arts, Music, PDHPE

## Parenting Ideas – ‘Insight’ Articles

The first insight article is **Being An Askable Parent**. While young people can be notoriously secretive about what’s on their mind, parent attitude and behaviour certainly impacts on their willingness to communicate. This article provides strategies that will maximise your chances of being seen as an askable parent in your young person’s eyes.

The second insight article is **Parenting In Challenging Times**. Personal tragedy, natural disasters and the global pandemic are all examples of circumstances that are extremely challenging for parents and children. The article outlines some elements to consider when parenting through times of challenge, change and difficulty.

## Upcoming Parent Webinar: Parenting Like A Cat And Dog

**When:** Wednesday 11 November 2020 8:00pm AEDT

**Presenter:** Michael Grose

Effective parents use more than one style when communicating with their families. They know how to alter their style to suit the situation. In this webinar, Michael Grose uses cat and dog metaphors to introduce parents to two diverse styles of parenting. This will increase their ability and confidence to manage, nurture and build relationships with their children. The cat-dog approach to parenting is fun, easy to use, respectful and maximises parent effectiveness in challenging situations.

Key learning and discussion points include:

- How parents can identify their natural style and work harmoniously with their partner and/or support networks
- Building confidence to manage children who relish getting their own way
- Constructive ways to adjust communication so that it meets the individual needs of children
- Effective methods to communicate with anxious children so they feel supported, safe and listened to
- Techniques to adapt parenting styles as children move into adolescence

### How to redeem the voucher

Redeem your webinar now - it's easy

- Click this link:  
[www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-parenting-like-a-cat-and-dog](http://www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-parenting-like-a-cat-and-dog)
- Click ‘Add to cart’
- Click ‘View cart’
- Enter the voucher code METAPHOR and click ‘Apply’
- Enter our school’s name to verify your eligibility. The \$37 discount will then be applied.
- Click ‘Proceed to checkout’
- Fill in your account details. These are the details you will use to login to your account and access your webinar and resources
- Click ‘Place Order’

**This offer is valid until 31 December 2020. If you’re unable to make the broadcast time, just register anyway and you will get access to the recording.**

## Study Skills Tip for November

This month’s study skills tip is **‘The Memory Process’**. When a student says that they have a bad memory, it usually means that actually they do not encode the information they are trying to remember into their memory in an effective way.

Memory is really a ‘process’ as opposed to a ‘thing’ in your head that you are born with.

Ms Pamela Abson

**Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning**



## Deputy Principal's Report – Curriculum

### NAPLAN 2021

From next year, students in Years 7 and 9 will be completing the NAPLAN test online. The benefits of the online test is when using the inbuilt adaptive testing capacity it allows students to demonstrate a greater range of understanding and stay engaged with the test. The tailored testing model will provide more detailed information about our student's abilities and help teachers meet the individual student needs more effectively. In preparing for the test, all schools are required by NESA to undertake a School Readiness Test. The Readiness Test will be held on 24 November and will only involve selected Year 7 classes. The date chosen for the Readiness Test is the week after all end-of-course assessment tasks have been completed so there is no impact on the preparation of Year 7 in completing formal assessments. The students will not have to study or prepare for the test, as it is not an assessment of student ability. The student's test attempts will not be marked and their results will not be distributed. The key reasons for the Readiness Test is to allow students to engage and become familiar with the new test format and allow the school to trial new administrative procedures and test the compliance and capacity of our technology infrastructure. More information about NAPLAN Online and demonstration tests is available at NESA NAPLAN Online - <https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

### Subject Selection

The curriculum pattern for 2021 is currently being formulated based on the student subject selections in Term 3. Any modifications to student elective subjects in Years 8-10 or the Year 11 pattern of study for 2021 will require a signed letter from parents or carers providing a clear explanation for the change in preferences. These applications will be looked at on a case-by-case basis at the end of the school year once the final curriculum pattern has been completed.

Mr Mark Treacy

**Deputy Principal – Curriculum**

### Student Wellbeing

Since the issue of the last Gazette, the following students have been presented with Dragon Badges:

Riya Amin (2), Ashwini Bineesh, Karina Dogra, Anam Fatima, Molly Maguire-Ward, Rachel Shen, Maya Singh, Ella Soo, Elizabeth Suto (2), Riya Suvarna (2), Jasmine Thoroughgood, Emily Yung (2) and Helena Zhang (2) of Year 7.

Aurelia Gunawan, Mavis Hong, Anastasia Kerr (6), Jasmine Nguyen (3), Parthena Philip, Sai Vibha Pothuganti, Rithika Sivakkumaran, Gigi Wu and Isabella Zhu of Year 8.

Selsabeel Al Hariri (2), Kristy Cai (2), Amanda Cho, Houda Hamadi, Bethany Hong (2), Nazihah Ibnat, Tanisha Iqbal, Sue Lee, Caitlin Matthews, Adelle Ruys, Jacinta Samera (3), Afrina Tanisha and Parul Taya of Year 9.

Katherine Elliott, Sabrina Huang (6), Jessica Lau (2) and Eleni Markantonakis of Year 10.

Alisha Shaikh, Anika Tahsin, Michelle Vuu, Michelle Yihm of Year 11.

Ain-UI-Qamar Ali (4), Cate Armstrong (5), Sophie Beer (3), Fiona Chau, Amelia Chen (2), Jasmine Chen (2), Angela Cheung, Natasha Everitt (4), Tiffany Fung (3), Zoe Gajus (2), Rianne Hamad (3), Jade He, Sabrina Hui, Christine Karabalis, Hargun Kaur (2), Amy Koralis, Clarissa Lee (2), Sammi Lee, Isabella Li (2), Tiffany Li (5), Jade Ma (6), Helen Mai (2), Shoshanna Marrett (2), Vanessa Pirom, Alisa Shutsikarindorn, Winnie Tan, Gina Tang (2), Carmen Truong (3), Joyce Wang (3), Vanessa Yan (2), Phoebe Yu (12), Hannah Yuan (5), Kristina Yuan (3), Ishrat Zaman (3), Judy Zhao (2), Annie Zhou (2) of Year 12.

The following students have been presented with Super Dragon Badges:

Anastasia Kerr and Rithika Sivakkumaran of Year 8.

Sabrina Huang, Agnes Tjokrosetio of Year 10.

Michelle Yihm of Year 11.

Rianne Hamad, Tiffany Li, Jade Ma, Helen Mai, Vanessa Pirom, Carmen Truong, Phoebe Yu (2), Ishrat Zaman and Serena Zhu of Year 12.

## English

Since the last issue of the Gazette, our graduating class has completed their English HSC Examinations, where they have applied all their knowledge and hard work to these two days. We are all very proud of our Year 12 students and we look forward to seeing them for Graduation Day very soon.

The results of The Hachette Australia Prize for Young Writers have arrived and one of our students in Year 11 Zainab Safi has come away with first prize for Creative Non-Fiction entry, "Cigarettes and Gasoline". We congratulate her for her immense effort and creativity.

On the heels of the previous writing competition, St George Girls High School is beginning a Graphic Novel Competition – see flyer within. We wish all of our students luck and we can't wait to see all of their amazing entries!

## Languages

### Year 7 Languages Day

This term we are finally able to hold Languages Day for Year 7. This was postponed from Term 2 and we are very happy that, with the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, we are able to run this event with some adjustments.

Year 7 Languages day is a highlight for Year 7 students. It's a day where students can engage with their language learning through fun language and cultural activities. Students are also encouraged to be creative when making their language-inspired costume for the parade. In the past students have used materials such as fabric, cardboard or sheets to create costumes based on the languages they have been studying. In past years some students have dressed up as snails, Roman goddesses, ninjas and sushi. We look forward to seeing this year's creations.

### Professional Training

This year is the second and final year of the implementation of the new 7 to 10 syllabuses for French and Japanese. Teachers have worked hard to re-write programs for these courses. I want to thank all the teachers for their hard work in completing this task in such a short time frame, using the deep insight they gained on the syllabuses through Professional Development days, which are often done on weekends and after hours. Recently staff have attended the Assessment and Reporting Workshop which will undoubtedly inform future directions in that area.

### Student Work

In Languages students develop skills in using a variety of programs to present their work. To do this, students first need to learn how to write the script using accents in French or hiragana, katakana and kanji in Japanese. Below are some examples of the wonderful work our students have been doing.

**Year 8 French** did a unit on family and created an imaginary family which they had to describe using descriptive language.





**Year 10 Japanese** researched an Australian athlete who will compete in the Tokyo Olympics and wrote a profile on the athlete.

By Fiona Zhou 10 Sep 1A

## マデリー・グロブ

マデリー・グロブさんはオーストラリアのチャンピオンの選手です。2021東京のオリンピックを行います！



マデリー・グロブさんは2016年のオリンピックにすいえいの競争で第二名になりました。マデリー・グロブさんは200メートルバタフライで、はやくおぼれました。それは、とてもかっこよさそうですね。みなさんはおうえんしてください。

マデリー・グロブさんは、あかると、でいい人です。オーストラリアで、あまり知られていません。でも私はマデリー・グロブさんが大好きです。私は、泳ぎの選手とオリンピックが大好きです。マデリー・グロブさんは、日本でも、がんばる人です。日本のどこでも、マデリー・グロブさんが見られそうです。私は、マデリー・グロブさんと、いしょうにがんばっていきみたいです。

マデリー・グロブのプロフィール

なまえ: マデリー・グロブ  
 ぬれい: 24  
 たんじょうひ: 25/05/95  
 住まい: クイーンズランド  
 こくせき: オーストラリア人

マデリー・グロブさんはすいえいが大好きで、とてもじょうずです。

ひまのときは寿司を食べて、アイスコーを飲めます。

## ジェシカ・フォックス Jessica Fox

ゆうめくて、カヌーのチャンピオンは日本を行います



ジェシカさんはカヌーがとくです。そして、カヤックをします。ワールドチャンピオンシップとオリンピックに行きました。カヌー・スラロームはやくできます。カヤックもじょうずです。よくなんのうして、しあいにいきます。でもかへんそう！ジェシカさんは一番よさそう。

ジェシカが大好きです。ジェシカが見たいです！かのじよは本当にしやれで、わかくて、いい人です。レーシングをかつこよさそう！ジェシカさんはスダルをたかさんっています。かのじよの手がとてつよいだ！そしてきれいです。ジェシカさんは子どもだにカヌーをおしえました。

ジェシカ・フォックスのプロフィール

なまえ: ジェシカ・フォックス  
 たん生ひ: 1994年6月11日  
 すまい: オーストラリア  
 まち: ペンリス  
 生まれました: フランス  
 好きなもの: おんがく、サーフィンと、りょうこう  
 おもしろいじつ: ジェシカさんはフランス語を話せます。チョコレートとどうぶつが大好きです。

**Year 10 Latin** students have been translating their first authentic Roman text this year. In the 1st century BCE the poet Catullus wrote about his tumultuous romance with the noblewoman Clodia. Year 10 have been able to find an endless number of parallels between this ancient poetry and the film, music and literature of their generation. Some comparisons with *Mean Girls*, Taylor Swift, and *Pride and Prejudice* are humorous. Other comparisons hit at the core value of our subject – which is that the fascination with the extremes of love has not changed in over 2000 years. Nor has the language we have used to communicate our emotions. It is deeply human to speak, to write, and to sing, and it is deeply beautiful.

## Kiss Me & How Many Kisses

Aria Stopher & Tracy Yao



bearded barley  
 green grass  
 milky twilight  
 moonlit  
 fireflies  
 Silver moon's sparkling

Both the song and poem have consistent imagery of nature and other living things. Including parts of the natural environment such as moonlight, stars, barley, sand and silphium in a poem about love suggests that the love in the story is natural and organic, and therefore meant to be – it feels right, and it's written in the stars.

sand – harenae  
 silphium  
 stars – sidera

## Sixpence None the Richer

Kiss me, out of the bearded barley  
 Nightly, beside the green, green grass  
 Swing, swing, (swing, swing)  
 Swing the spinning step  
 You wear those shoes and I will wear that dress:

Kiss me, beneath the milky twilight  
 Lead me out on the moonlit floor  
 Lift your open hand  
 Strike up the band and make the fireflies dance  
 Silver moon's sparkling

So kiss me  
 So kiss me  
 So kiss me  
 So kiss me

### CATULLUS CARMEN 7

Quaeris, quot mihi basiationes tuae, Lesbia, sint satis superque, quam magnus numerus Libysae harenae lasarpiciferis jacet Cyrenis oraculum Iovis inter aestuosius

et Batti veteris sacrum sepulcrum; aut quam sidera multa, cum tacet nox, furtivos hominum vident amores...

Kiss me, beneath the milky twilight  
 Lead me out on the moonlit floor

Silver moon's sparkling

Both Catullus and Sixpence None the Richer use imagery of space objects to describe their intense love and infatuation with their lover. Perhaps because celestial bodies encapsulate the same ethereally and mysteriousness which occurs in passionate love.

Or as many kisses as the stars, when night is silent, Who watch the secret loves of men

## Lesbia's Wrath

Lesbia mi praesente viro mala plurima dicit: haec illi fatuo maxima lacticia est. Mule, nihil sentis? si nostri oblita taceret Sana esset: nunc quod gannit t obliquitur, non solum meminit, sed, quae multo acris est res, irata est. hoc est, uritur et loquitur

Anna Karenina: 2012 Film  
 Anna Karenina: "If you have any thought for me you will give me back my peace!"

Count Vronsky: "There can be no peace for us, only misery, and the greatest happiness."

Lesbia says very many bad things about me with her husband. This is the source of the greatest joy for that fool. Idiot, do you perceive nothing? If she were silent and forgetful of me she would be sane. Not only does she remember, but, even much more seriously. She is angry. That is, she speaks



## Catullus Vs Anna Karenina



## Green Corner



### Green Day is on Thursday 19 November

Green Day is coming up soon! Be excited St George. The Enviro Council, Ms Duffy and other helpers have been hard at work to make Green Day a successful event for the school.

All Year 7 to 10 classes will participate in two 1-hour workshops facilitated by the Enviro Council Executive – designed to educate the school community on how to reduce our impact on the Earth. We can do this all together! Due to Covid-19 regulations, there will not be any outside presenters. Please support the efforts of these amazing students who have taken on the task of ensuring **Green Day** goes ahead.

We will be selling succulents, metal straws, fairy floss and many more! Succulents and metal straws will not be sold on the day, please make sure to order online through the google form that will be sent out this week.

**Succulents in little teapots, mugs, cups, small milk jugs.**  
- flat price of \$5

**Metal straws in a draw string bag**  
- \$12

**There are a limited number so be quick !**

This year there will not be the traditional green jelly and ice cream, cakes or BBQ. Instead on the day there will be bags of **green and rainbow coloured fairy floss** - \$3.50 per bag. Sold during recess in several location around the school.



**For a GOLD coin \$\$ donation students will be able to wear mufti.**

**Come dressed as your favourite animal, plant or SIMPLY wear lots of green to show your support for environmental issues that the Enviro Council promote during the year.**

### St George Girls in a League of Their Own

Congratulations to Katrina Hayler, a recently graduated Year 12 student who came first in the under 18's category of the **2020 RD Walshe Memorial Writing for the Environment** competition at the National level. The 2020 topic was called "I am Earth" and the competition requires participants to submit a piece of writing between 800 to 1000 words. Katrina's tremendous achievement has been mentioned in the St George and Sutherland Shire Leader, with judges calling her piece "powerful and evocative". The Enviro Council and Ms Duffy would all like to congratulate Katrina on her dedication and passion for the environment.

Enviro Journalist and Enviro Council Vice President  
**Michelle Vuu**  
Year 11

## Technological and Applied Studies

### Food Technology Elective

On Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> of August, Mr Morris and Mrs Torrisi organised a Food Technology elective incursion with professional pastry chef, Handi Mulyana, in relation to our Year 8 celebration unit. During this time, we were taught how to make mermaid cake toppers out of fondant. Mr Mulyana was very informative and efficient in demonstrating the process of cake decorating.

This was an unforgettable and enjoyable experience as we learnt techniques that we can continue to utilise for the rest of our lives. At first, it was quite challenging to work with the fondant however we received advice from Mr Mulyana which made the task more straightforward. The cheery attitude he had helped us concentrate and overall, the cake toppers looked delightful and it was extremely fun. Thanks Mrs Torrisi and Mr Morris!

Written by Candice Lu, Fatema Pervin and Tessa Jolly





## Year 10 Textiles Technology

Year 10 Textiles Technology have been exploring the unique ways fabrics can be made and how the properties of a range of fibres influence the ways in which they perform. Students drew inspiration from nature and personal interests to design their woven wall hangings. Their amazing projects can be found on display in the school library.





## Parents and Citizens' Association

Welcome to Term 4. Our last few P&C meetings have taken place virtually and we seem to be making some progress in our technological skills. Last meeting Mr Dominique Bowen (Head Teacher, Social Science) spoke about the Social Science school programs and staffing arrangements. There are still unfortunately many Term 4 events that have been postponed or cancelled due to Covid-19. Please consider attending our next P&C meeting at 7pm 26 November 2020 to hear more about what's happening in the school. We welcome all parents to join us in the Common Room at 7:00pm for all the updates.

Sharon Khan

**President, Parents and Citizens'**

[sggh.pca@gmail.com](mailto:sggh.pca@gmail.com)

## Mothers' Committee

The Mothers' Committee is a great opportunity to get to know other parents and stay in the loop regarding your daughter's education. Thank you Ms Romeo for updating us on the Year 11 Transition Day, the HSC examinations and the preparations well-underway for the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and Presentation Day as well as the Covid-19 protocols that need to be considered this year. Thank you also to Mr Batten (Visual Arts Teacher) for taking the time to share with us information about the outstanding work being created by the SGGHS Visual Arts students, the curriculum and 2020 HSC student Major Works. His presentation was most engaging and impressive.

### Next Meeting: Wednesday 2 December at 10am in the School Library.

This is our last meeting for the year. We celebrate together with a morning tea, so it would be lovely if you could join us!

### Uniform Shop News

We have a new face in the Uniform Shop. Welcome to Pat who will be in the Uniform Shop during opening times. Mandy will continue working behind the scenes.

The Uniform Shop will be open from 1pm – 3:30pm on Wednesdays. Girls can come during their lunch break (1:10pm – 1:45pm) or immediately after school. Parent volunteers are still needed during the shop's opening times.

There will be additional days and times by appointment only towards the end of Term 4 to assist Year 7 students starting next year. Parent volunteers are still needed for these additional days/times. Please contact Cathy Anderson on the number below if you are able to help.

Thank you so much to all our faithful volunteers – we really appreciate your help!

With best wishes to you and your family,

Kim Le

**President, Mothers' Committee**

Contact Ph: 0421 849 753

Cathy Anderson

**Uniform Shop Coordinator**

Contact Ph: 0423 533 855

## St Georgians

**A**s the HSC Exams end later this month, we wish all the very best to the departing Year 12 students. We look forward to seeing many of you at the Year 12 Excellence Awards Ceremony early next year as the prizes for these awards are donated each year by the St Georgians.

As you prepare for the next stage of your lives we invite all you to join us on Facebook. We have formed a “closed group”— simply search Facebook for the St Georgians and choose the St Georgians closed group and ask to join.

### 2021 Annual Reunion Luncheon and 2021 Annual General Meeting

We would usual announce the dates for our next Annual Reunion Luncheon and Annual General meeting at this time of year, however, as this year has been so very far from usual, we are not in a position to do so at this time. We hope to be able to announce these dates next month in the final Gazette of the year.

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, St Georgians**  
0410 582 636

Heather Jennings  
**Secretary**  
9501 4641



# St George Girls Make News!

**Leader**

Community


OCTOBER 13 2020 - 2:00PM

## Lugarno student wins first prize in 2020 RD Walshe Memorial Writing for the Environment Prize

Merryn Porter

Community



 Earth lover: Katrina Hayler has won first prize in an environmental writing competition. Picture: Supplied

A St George Girls High School student has won a national writing competition run by Sutherland Shire Environment Centre.

Katrina Hayler, 17, of Lugarno, won the under-18 category of the 2020 RD Walshe Memorial Writing for the Environment Prize.

The year 12 student said that from a very young age, her parents encouraged her to "think about and respect the environment".

"Every day I walk my two dogs in the abundant bushland that surrounds our home in Lugarno," she said.

"I have been writing short stories for enjoyment for many years but never entered any competitions.

"Our school biology teacher, Ms Duffy, encouraged us to enter the RD Walshe Memorial Writing for the Environment Prize. As it was an issue close to my heart it was not difficult to jot down some of the things that I have been thinking about while bushwalking and observing my natural surroundings.

"It was a total surprise but great honour to be awarded this prize and I am very grateful to the judges who recognised my sincerity."





The national writing competition honours Sutherland Shire Environment Centre's founder Bob Walshe, who died in 2018.

Sutherland Shire Environment Centre's chairwoman Tassia Kolesnikow said Mr Walshe was a "prolific writer".

"Our competition honours a man who understood the power of words to stir thinking and action," she said.

This year's competition invited people up to the age of 25 to submit a piece around the topic 'I am Earth'.

Ms Hayler's winning work was described as a "powerful and evocative".

The judges were moved by the "beauty and might of the planet" in her poetic story, *I am*, which finished with the words: "But will you remember me before you go? For I am the infinite becoming finite. I am the unforgettable becoming forgotten. I am Earth".

"It seems the competition has tapped into young people's desire everywhere to express themselves and their concerns about the environment," Ms Kolesnikow said.

"We are delighted and overwhelmed with the passion of young people for the environment.

"We received over 80 entries from around the country for the two categories."

A third category for seniors will be added next year thanks to the generosity of Heathcote couple, Barbara and Wally Koppe, who will put up the prize money.

One of the judges, author Pam Cook, said all entries were of a very high standard and she hoped the writers continued to develop their talents.

"I do think the Earth is in good hands if the sentiments expressed in these pieces are indicative of the attitudes of our young in relation to caring for the Earth," she said

DEC

1.2020

St George Girls  
High School  
presents:

Wow!

# Graphic Novel Competition

GOOD  
TIMES

enjoy  
every  
moment.

PRIZES TO  
BE WON!

Theme:  
St George of the Jungle!