

St George Girls High School

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Monthly Bulletin

November 2021
Vol. 26 No.7



Green Day

Wednesday 10 November
11am

Parents & Citizens' Association Meeting

Thursday 25 November
Staff Common Room
7pm

**Year 10
Personal Best Interviews**
Monday 29 November

Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
Tuesday 7 December
School Hall
12pm

Mothers' Committee Meeting
Wednesday 8 December
10am

Presentation Ceremony
Thursday 9 December
School Hall

Principal's Message

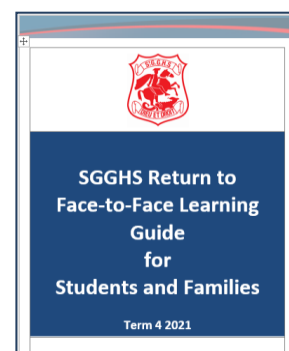
Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

Return to Face-to-Face Learning

We are very excited that all students in Years 7-12 and staff have now safely returned and settled back into the routine of face-to-face learning, after what has been a very long and extended period of remote learning school operations. We know that the best learning environment for students is in the classroom working alongside their teachers and peers, and we are relieved that we have been able to resume some of our usual school operations as one connected school community.

We have worked hard to undertake the necessary planning and preparation to ensure that our school site is safe and ready for staff and students to return. I would like to thank the large number of staff who have supported the myriad of tasks undertaken over the past few weeks to support this preparation, in particular our Administration and Support staff, our Relieving Head Teacher Administration Mr Rob Cowper, the ISS cleaning staff onsite, our IT Support on the ground, Mr Nat Pupatwibul, our Deputy Principal - Curriculum, Mrs Amber Housego, who manages daily school site operations, our Deputy Principal - Teaching and Learning, Ms Pam Abson who has ensured that Year 12 students had the opportunity to safely return for vital HSC revision, preparation as well as leading the Year 12 Cohort Team to ensure that our Year 12 students had the opportunity to experience their highly anticipated and well-deserved school farewell activities and festivities. A BIG thank you must also go to all SGGHS teaching staff who have yet again pivoted from online lesson delivery to face-to-face lessons so professionally and seamlessly.

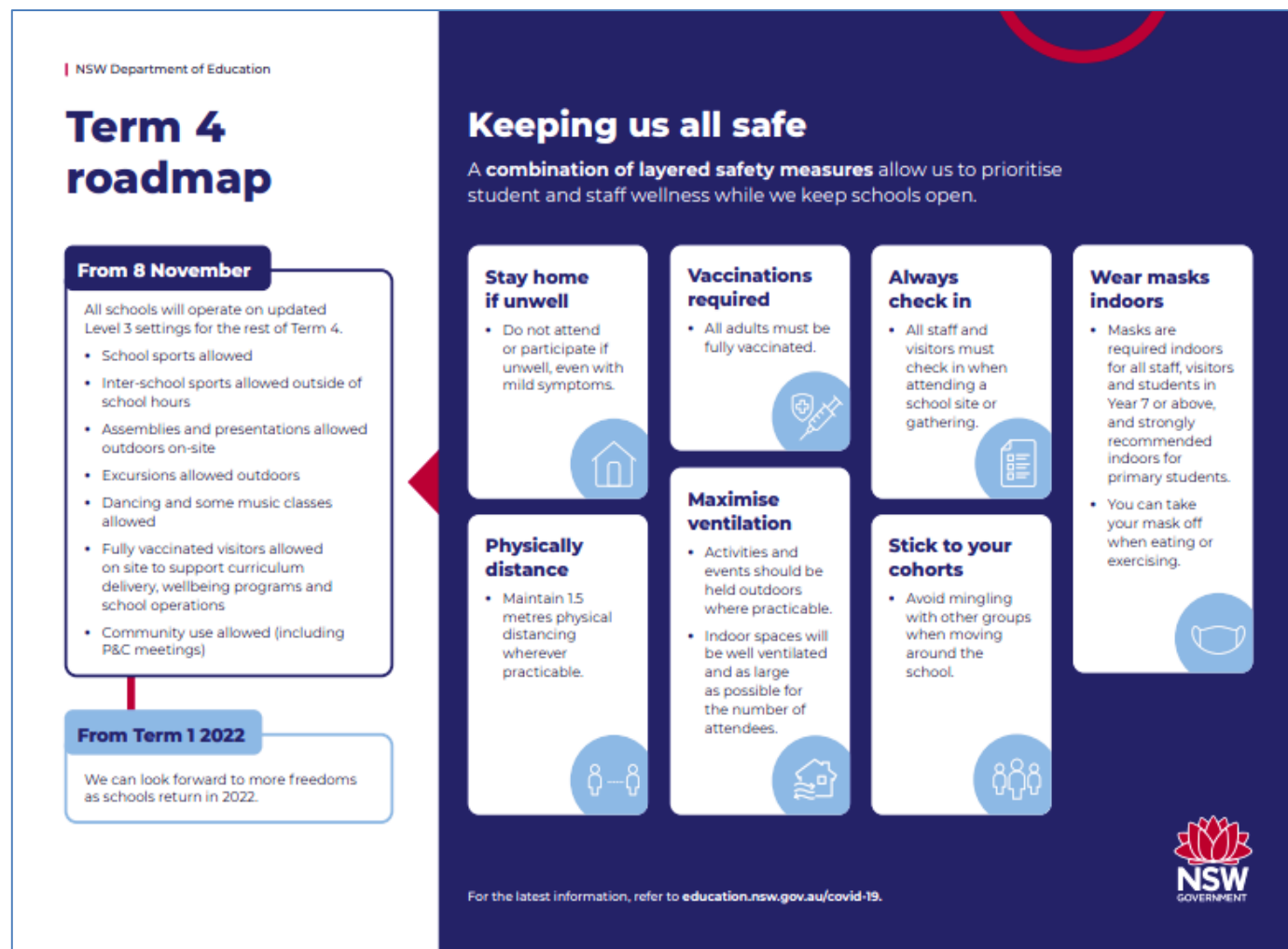
The school has created a comprehensive 'SGGHS Return to Face-to-Face Learning Guide for Students and Families'. This document has been emailed to all members of the community and can be accessed in the Sentral Student/Parent Portal. The guide includes information on staff vaccinations, mask wearing, reduced mingling of staff and student groups, ventilation in classrooms and continued good hygiene and cleaning. We are confident that this, in combination with support from our school community, will minimise risk and help to keep our school open and students learning face-to-face with their peers and teachers. All school activities and operations will be undertaken in line with the advice from the DoE, Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) and NSW Health guidelines as applicable.



Updated Level 3 Covid-Safe School Operations

From Monday 8 November all schools will move onto updated Level 3 settings that bring school operations in line with updated community settings for the rest of Term 4. A summary of the key changes are outlined in the infographic below.

The changes support a greater range of activities to go ahead and also allow fully vaccinated providers and visitors on school sites to support curriculum delivery, wellbeing programs and school operations. To keep students and staff safe, schools will continue to maintain cohorting and other COVID-safe layered measures at all times.



A combination of layered COVID-safe plans and measures will allow us to prioritise student and staff safety and keep our school open. To do this, the following guidelines remain in place:

- Students, staff and visitors must not attend school if unwell, even with mild symptoms.
- All staff and adult visitors on the school site must be fully vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination.
- Masks are required indoors for all staff, adult visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students. Masks can be removed when eating or exercising.
- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.
- Adults should maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.
- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practical.
- Indoor spaces will be well-ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees - following square metre guidelines.
- Students should avoid mingling with other class and year groups when moving around the school.
- Students and staff will maintain good hand hygiene and schools will continue with enhanced cleaning, including high touch points.

Our school will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4 2021, with the following activities now allowed in a COVID-safe manner:

- Assemblies and presentations are allowed outdoors, with cohorts separated and physical distancing in place. Fully vaccinated visitors (including parents and carers) are only allowed to attend if completing a specific role (such as presenting) and at the invitation of the school.
- Community use is allowed outside of school hours (including P&C meetings) with COVID-safe plans in place – in line with public health requirements.
- Dancing, bands, ensembles and music classes will be allowed within cohorts. However, everyone must wear masks while playing instruments indoors. Other instruments that rely on breath or require a mask to be removed to be played, as well as singing and chanting, are not permitted in Term 4.
- Excursions are allowed outdoors (and indoors where sole use of the premises is available).
- Incursions are allowed indoors and outdoors where cohorts are kept separate.
- Graduations and formals are allowed within cohorts, either on school sites or at external venues – with COVID-safe plans in place and physical distancing adhered to.
- School sports are allowed, including inter-school sports and access to indoor and outdoor pools (from 1 November).
- Transitions and orientations are allowed in a COVID-safe way that minimises mingling between students.
- Fully vaccinated parents and carers will be allowed on site to support curriculum delivery, student wellbeing activities and school operations (for example reading support, canteens and uniform shops). Parents and carers must check in using the school check-in and show proof of vaccination on entry to the school site.

The most up to date advice for families regarding school operations is always available on the Department of Education (DoE) website, that can be accessed via the following link; [Advice for families \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/education/schools/parents-and-carers)

2021/2022 Prefect Induction Assembly

On Wednesday 27 October we were fortunate to be permitted to host the 2020/21 Prefect Induction Ceremony on school grounds in a modified format. This special assembly was conducted to acknowledge the efforts of the outgoing prefect body, as well as formally induct the newly elected prefects for 2021/2022. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place the Assembly was live streamed to students in Years 7-10 and to parents/carers.

I would like to thank our outgoing Prefects who had to simultaneously balance their HSC studies and lead their cohort and peers in a period of relentless change and uncertainty.



There was no template, no pre-determined checklist or roadmap for this group Prefects to rely on, or refer back to, as they embraced their whole school responsibilities and led their cohort and peers through a pandemic, while also preparing for their HSC, which proved a further source of stress and uncertainty for them. Despite this, they executed their duties with distinction.

I would also like to congratulate our newly inducted Prefects. Their investiture into this notable office marks a major milestone, both in their learning journey at St George as well as in their personal development. The school can see the great potential in each of our newly inducted leaders, and their election is a testament to the confidence their peers and teachers have in their leadership capability.

I look forward to watching our newly elected prefects utilise their role as an opportunity to 'build back better and stronger in 2022', knowing that they have the support from the staff, students and their families behind them. I know each of our leaders will represent our school with dignity, pride and respect and I look forward to working together over the next 12 months.

I wish to thank Anna Wong who has been our school pianist for the last year for her service to the school. I am also pleased to announce that Jessie Wang will take up this position for the coming year and it was wonderful to have Jessie perform as part of the ceremony in front of her peers.

New Uniform Transition Update

I would like to acknowledge the work underway in the Uniform Shop to prepare for the transition to the refreshed SGGHS school uniform that will commence in 2022 with our Year 7 and Year 10 cohorts. The Mothers' Committee (Uniform Shop Sub-Committee), under the guidance of Ms Nadisa Milo and Mrs Mandy Nguyen have investigated and implemented an online Uniform Shop platform to facilitate online orders and payment. Information regarding registration and ordering has been sent to our Year 9 students and parents/carers, as they have been targeted to be the first cohort to use the new online system to make pre-orders for the new SGGHS Year 10 senior uniform suite.

I wanted to outline some key expectations regarding the new SGGHS uniform transition from 2022 for all students.

- **ALL** students in Years 7-12 will transition to the new SGGHS school socks from 2022. Further communication and advice will be provided to all students and families to outline how the new socks can be ordered and picked up shortly.
- **ALL** students in Years 7 2022 will be expected to wear the new SGGHS suite of summer and winter uniform options in full.
- A new sports uniform option is available for purchase for Year 10 students in 2022. Students in Year 10 are required to complete mandatory PDHPE curriculum and Friday Sport and in Year 11 students will continue to engage in a sport rotation as part of the Monday afternoon SEED program. Students in Year 10 2022 can remain in their existing sport uniform (if it fits and is in good condition) and purchasing the new sport uniform is optional for this cohort during the transition period. The existing sports jacket is **NOT** permitted to be worn over the new senior uniform. Students in Year 10 2022 will need to purchase the new jumper and/or cardigan options for additional warmth, or the school blazer.
- Students in Years 8 and 9 in 2022 will remain in the existing SGGHS uniform suite and the Uniform Shop will continue to supply these cohorts (as required) with uniform items in line with their stock levels.

The Mothers' Committee contribution in this month's Gazette provides additional information for students and families regarding the opening up of online ordering using the new platform. I am excited to finally have the new uniform transition ready to go from next year and I am grateful for the intense work undertaken behind the scenes to manage this transition over the past few years by the Mothers' Committee and our Uniform Shop coordinators both past and present.

HSC Examinations Commence...Finally!

After extended delays and disruptions the Class of 2021 will finally commence their HSC Written Examinations on Tuesday 9 November. A significant amount of work has been undertaken behind the scenes to ensure that our school is ready to host COVID-safe HSC Examinations, in line with the most up to date NESA and DoE advice. I would like to acknowledge the work of our Deputy Principal - Teaching and Learning and HSC Coordinator, Ms Pam Abson who has invested a huge amount of time and effort to ensure that the 2021 HSC runs as smoothly as possible, and to make sure that we are well-prepared to address any issues related to managing a case of COVID-19, in the unlikely event that this may be required. The level of detail and precision in the planning exceeds what was in place last year and we are very grateful to have this organisation in such capable hands.

We now wish our Year 12 students all the very best over the coming weeks and a BIG thank you to our Year 12 teachers who have spent considerable time supporting and maintaining student motivation levels leading up to the HSC examinations.

It has been an absolute pleasure to have our Year 12 students as such an integral part of the school's social fabric for the past six years and I would like to thank all of the Class of 2021 for their continued support and contribution to the school. A great future awaits our Year 12 students and I am confident that St George Girls High School has prepared its graduates well to take on the next challenge in their lives and the new opportunities that will follow in 2022 and beyond.

Thank you to our Year 12 parents/carers for their continued and unconditional support. We will continue to work together over the coming weeks to successfully navigate through the HSC Examination period. I am confident that our students will make us all very proud as they embrace the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learnt and to realise the products of their efforts, as they successfully tick off each HSC examination over the coming weeks.

Year 12 Graduation Day Update

The Department of Education (DoE) has provided schools with very clear advice, parameters and guidelines in relation to hosting Graduation Ceremonies on the school site. Graduation ceremonies must follow the current COVID-safe plan communicated by the DoE and planning is now well underway to make the necessary arrangements for this to take place.

Year 12 Graduation Day will take place on **Tuesday 7 December** commencing at 12:00pm. Students in Years 7-11 will be dismissed at the conclusion of Period 4 to ensure that the school site is available for the ceremony to be undertaken in line with the COVID-safe plan. Correspondence will be sent home to students in Years 7-11 and their parents/carers shortly that will outline the specific details and arrangements required to facilitate the early finish time to the school day on this date.

Each Year 12 student will have the opportunity to invite a maximum of two guests to attend the ceremony to share in this special occasion, this is to ensure that the school complies with the square metre guidelines within the COVID-Safe Plan. Unfortunately, not all guests will be able to be seated in the Assembly Hall. To address this, the school will live stream the ceremony and guests unable to be seated in the Assembly Hall will have the opportunity to view the ceremony from the Gymnasium. Parents/carers unable to attend the ceremony due to the restrictions in place in the COVID-safe plan regarding attendees, will also have the opportunity to view the live stream of the Graduation Ceremony via a secure link that will be emailed to all parents/carers.

Detailed correspondence and registration information will soon be provided to our Year 12 students and families to outline the specific arrangements and guidelines included in the COVID-safe plan more explicitly.

We look forward to being able to have the opportunity to formally acknowledge and celebrate the graduating Class of 2021 and I am confident that the school will be able to successfully host a COVID-safe Graduation Ceremony in line with the guidelines and expectations provided by the DoE.

Presentation Day Planning Underway

Unfortunately the current COVID-safe DoE guidelines and parameters in place for Term 4 make it impossible to host a whole school Presentation day off site at an external venue. Our Annual Presentation Day will be held on Thursday 9 December on site in the School Hall. This year the Presentation Day Ceremony will replicate the arrangements in place last year and we will host a series of separate assemblies to celebrate the achievements for each cohort group.

Students will have normal lessons on the other periods of the day when they are not attending their cohort Presentation Day Assembly. I would like to remind the school community that this is compulsory school day for all students. The ceremony will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate student achievement and excellence across a range of domains for the 2021 school year and I look forward to sharing in and attending this celebration throughout the day.

The Level 3 COVID-safe school restrictions in place stipulate that parents/carers cannot attend Presentation Day assemblies. As was the case last year, the Presentation Day Assemblies for each cohort group will be live streamed and a recording of each assembly will also be made available to students and their parents/carers to view at a convenient time and to keep as a record of their daughter's 2021 achievements.

I am very grateful to Miss Dwyer, Ms Di Leo and Mrs Louskos for the work they have undertaken to coordinate and plan this highly anticipated whole school event and thank them for accommodating the added logistical requirements needed to host such a large-scale school event in consideration of the current NSW Health and DoE guidelines in place.

A special mention must also go to Mr Moroney who has played an integral role in live streaming a range of events and activities during the pandemic, and for his support to ensure that we have the technology and technical support in place to live stream and record our events to share with our school community.

I do look forward to being able to take this event back to the Sydney Town Hall next year when we can have all our students, parents and community members in attendance together. I have already locked in our booking for the SGGHS Presentation Day 2022 to ensure that this occurs.

Student Achievements

- A special thank you must go to Year 11 students Anna Cheng, Elaine Shen, Irena Liu and Kenda Nadir who provided SGGHS teachers with hand-drawn and written cards accompanied with the chocolates in recognition of World Teachers' Day on Friday 29 October.

This group of Year 11 students volunteer for 'Little Helpers On The Run' a non-profit organisation run by children, dedicated to changing the world by spreading kindness. World Teachers' Day was just one of many projects the students support. This organisation has undertaken over 4,000 kindness projects, they work with over 100 Nursing homes and serve over 2,500 children and countless families each week. I know the staff at SGGHS certainly appreciated their kindness and recognition on World Teachers' Day.



- A very big congratulations to the incoming 2022 Enviro Council Senior Executive for 2022:
 - President: Jashan Singh (Year 11)
 - Vice- Presidents: Fiona Jiang (Year 11) and Parul Taya (Year 10)

Thank you also to the outgoing Enviro Council Executive team: President – Aneeta Nelson, and Vice Presidents - Michelle Vuu and Eleni Markantonakis, who have done a wonderful job supporting the SGGHS environmental sustainability initiatives during their time in office.

I will continue to keep in touch with the community over the coming weeks with updates, information and more detailed arrangements regarding school operations and the end of year events as these are finalised. I look forward to seeing many parents/carers at the final P&C Meeting for the year (that will be hosted back on the school site) on Thursday 25 November at 7:00pm in the Common Room.

Take care,

Ms Betty Romeo
Principal

Deputy Principal's Report – Teaching and Learning

The HSC examinations are now underway after many changes and what seems like months of waiting for the exams to finally start. Year 12 have really shown their resilience throughout the last few months and continued to work hard and stay focused in their preparation for the final exams. With the easing of restrictions, Year 12 students were fortunate to have the opportunity to return to some final face-to-face learning with their teachers and enjoy some celebrations and cohort activities within the guidelines of COVID-safe activities. I wish all of Year 12 the best for their exams over the coming month and am looking forward to celebrating on Graduation Day with our students and families.



SGGHS Professional Learning – Monthly Update

Since returning from remote learning, the staff at SGGHS have embraced the opportunity to re-engage with professional learning opportunities, either with colleagues onsite or via online delivery of courses.

School Plan Professional Learning

- Collective Student Efficacy webinar
- Collective Leader Efficacy webinar
- Making Visible Learning workshop
- ACT for Trauma course
- Middle Leaders course

Curriculum Professional Learning

- Improving Student Performance in Stage 6 PDHPE
- Critical and Creative Thinking in Practice - Science
- STANSW Stage 6 Chemistry Conference
- Annual Careers Conference
- Positive Schools Conference

Parenting Ideas – ‘Insight’ Articles

This month’s articles from ‘Insights’ are:

‘How to manage stress caused by exams and upcoming events’. An upcoming exam or a nerve-wracking event can trigger a flight-or-fight response, flooding the body with cortisol and adrenaline. Knowing how to switch on their body’s inbuilt relaxation system can help children and young people manage anxiety caused by exams, the pandemic and other stressful events.

‘Screen time habits for good eye health’. As children and teenagers spend more time online it’s important that adults equip them with the skills and strategies to protect the health of their eyes.

Upcoming Parent Webinar: Using birth order knowledge for a parenting edge

When: Wednesday 10 November 2021 8:00pm AEDT

Presenter: Michael Grose

Effective parents and carers are always looking for an edge to help them raise happy, confident, resilient kids. Many people do a brilliant job of learning on the run, but can miss a rich vein of knowledge that’s right in front of them – a child’s birth order position. In this webinar, Michael Grose explains how birth order position impacts on a child’s personality, attitudes and behaviour. He provides insights to help bring out the best in every child, reduce destructive sibling rivalry and increase family harmony.

Key learning and discussion points include:

- how birth order works and why it sometimes doesn’t make sense
- why birth order applies to both large and small families
- how to conduct a birth order audit for your family
- the impact that your own birth order has on your parenting
- essential parenting strategies for kids who don’t quite fit the birth order mould

Parents/Carers have been emailed the flyer for this webinar which provides details to access and register for this free webinar.

Study Skills Tip for November

This month’s study skills tip is **‘MAKING THE MOST OF CLASSTIME’**. It proves 7 key tips to support students to work effectively in class

Ms Pamela Abson

Deputy Principal – Teaching and Learning

Deputy Principal – Year 8, 10 and 12

Deputy Principal's Report – Curriculum

COVID Safe Schools – School ventilation update

With the ever-changing landscape of the COVID-19 environment we are living in, I wanted to ensure that families are informed of the work, strategies and Department of Education (DoE) guidelines that are being implemented to support student and staff safety at SGGHS.

Over the past 4 weeks, the DoE Asset Management team have been working closely with their schools to ensure they are safe and ready for students and staff to return. One key area of focus was ensuring each classroom, learning space and staff room had sufficient ventilation and air flow throughout. As you can see from the image below, there has been a three-phase process developed to assess and rectify any issues with schools' ventilation and we are currently at stage three of this process.

Department of Education's ventilation and asset use strategy

Phase 1 – Audit of all schools COMPLETE

Statewide review of all NSW public schools. Principals provided with localised audit reports on individual spaces.

The Department of Education received independent expert ventilation advice, supported by research from the Doherty Institute and guidance by the World Health Organisation.

Phase 2 – Customise to local school conditions COMPLETE

Principals and local Asset Services Officers assessed ventilation requirements in each school setting using their ventilation reports. Remediation works were completed to meet safety and occupancy guidelines.

Phase 3 – Ongoing support and COVID safety

Local Asset Services Officers continue to work with schools to support ventilation and COVID-19 safety. Permanent remediation works for ventilation will continue. Air purifiers and fresh air ventilation systems are being deployed for specific spaces, where required, and a carbon dioxide (CO₂) trial is underway.

The DoE's first phase of supporting COVID-safe school operations involved a thorough, review of all windows, fans and ventilation systems at SGGHS. Any ventilation issues identified within the audit have now been addressed and modification and rectification works have been completed over the past 4 weeks. In addition to replacing fans and ensuring windows are fully operational, a number of air purifiers were delivered last week for use in specific spaces to supplement natural ventilation when specified ventilation levels could not be guaranteed.

As part of the ongoing support the DoE is providing to schools, our school was selected as one of 80 schools to have data trackers installed in some classrooms assessing carbon dioxide, temperature and humidity levels every 10 minutes. These data trackers are expected to provide information about the effectiveness of the ventilation measures, including air purifiers, adopted and provide reassurance that existing ventilation is effective and adequate. Once the trial and data tracking has finished, the DoE will be sharing the results with the school for review.

Years 7, 8 and 9 to Complete the DoE Check-in Assessment

Commencing in Week 7, Monday 15 November, all Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be completing the NSW Department of Education Literacy and Numeracy Check-in Assessment. The Check-In Assessment comprises of 2 online tests, one numeracy and one literacy test and they will be completed over a double period session.

These tests are designed to be quick and easy to complete, approximately 40 minutes in duration and are mapped to the NSW Syllabuses and National Literacy and Numeracy Learning Progressions.

The primary purpose of facilitating the Check-In Assessments at this point in the year, in addition to our scheduled school-based assessments, is to gather important literacy and numeracy student data after the extended period of remote learning students have just returned from. The data gathered from this assessment will be pivotal to undertake effective planning for the year ahead and to enable the school to tailor the learning and support mentoring programs in place to meet the needs of our students. Additionally,

the assessment is designed to provide teachers with consistent and up-to-date information about their students' skills and abilities in literacy and numeracy and identify the students requiring additional support to successfully engage with stage relevant learning outcomes.

In Week 7, the test sessions have been scheduled over a double period and the classes participating in each session has been planned around any scheduled school activities and class assessments. The Check-in Assessment schedule for Years 7-9 is as follows.

Monday 15 November

Session A: Period 1 and 2

7 Blue CR1, Orange CR2, Red CR3

Session B: Period 4 and 5

7 Green CR1 and 7 Yellow CR2

Tuesday 16 November

Session A: Period 1 and 2

8 Blue CR1, Orange CR2, Red CR3

Session B: Period 4 and 5

8 Green CR1 and 8 Yellow CR2

Wednesday 17 November

Session A: Period 1 and 2

9 Blue CR1, Orange CR2, Red CR3

Session B: Period 4 and 5

9 Green CR1 and 7 Yellow CR2

Year 11- HSC Assessment Block 1

With HSC courses now well underway, Year 11 are preparing for their first HSC Assessment Block commencing on Thursday 26 November. As this is a formal assessment block, students will not be expected to attend school unless they have a scheduled task. All students and families are strongly encouraged to read through the assessment instructions provided with the assessment block schedule, as well as consult the 2021 SGGHS HSC Assessment Policy and Procedures documentation for further procedural information.

In the case that a student is unable to attend on the day of a scheduled task due to illness/misadventure, please contact the front office who will inform the Year 11 Deputy Principal – Mrs Housego, of the absence. I will then arrange a rescheduled time for the task in the next available examination slot. Please ensure for any missed task, medical advice is accessed on the day of the missed task and that medical documentation is provided to the school upon returning.

Mrs Amber Housego

Deputy Principal – Curriculum

Deputy Principal – Year 7, 9 and 11

Green Corner



Green Fact: Australia is the worst offending country in the world for mammal extinctions. Fifty-five wildlife species plus 37 plant species have gone extinct in Australia.

The Enviro Council is taking the opportunity to increase our social media presence with our Instagram page @sgghsenvirocouncil where we provide tips, news and updates for anything enviro. Give us follow for weekly updates on what our school gets up to in the environment!

Hello St George, despite another lockdown leaving us parted from the school community, we still have heaps of exciting and fantastic initiatives coming for the upcoming school term.

But firstly, I'd like to introduce the newly elected Senior Executive for the 2021 – 2022 term of the Enviro Council, **President Jashan Singh, Vice-President Fiona Jiang and Vice President Parul Taya**. Please give the new senior executive team a warm welcome as they settle in!

I would also like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to our numerous Year 12 Senior Executives as they head off in preparation of their HSC! Their work and support over the years has made an invaluable contribution to the SGGHS Enviro Council, and we all deeply appreciate their efforts! Following on are a few words from the outgoing President, Aneeta, Vice-President Michelle and Eleni and fellow Gazette writer Ru!



Outgoing President Aneeta Nelson:

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Duffy, for her incredible dedication and organisation, without which the achievements and opportunities afforded by the SGGHS Enviro Council would not be possible.



This past year has been challenging on several fronts. However, the passion demonstrated by the Enviro Executive has made it rewarding and memorable. I want to express my admiration and respect for Vice Presidents; Michelle Vuu and Eleni Markantonakis, for their dedication, creativity, and friendship. In union with the highly commended efforts of the Council, we have been able to adapt to the changes posed by the pandemic and deliver events and initiatives with success and ease. Together, we have worked on formalising council procedures, and we have been able to develop an Enviro Programme, aimed at providing structure and inspiration for future Enviro leaders.

It has been an honour to serve as the 2020/2021 Enviro President and lead such a talented and dedicated group of peers. I wish the incoming Senior Executive; Jashan Singh, Fiona Jiang and Parul Taya, all the best, and am confident they will lead the Enviro Council into another successful year.

Outgoing Vice-President Michelle Vuu:

My time as the Vice-President of the Enviro Council has taught me the most out of all the leadership roles that I have had the pleasure of participating in. This is due to unification of leadership that is found in Enviro and the interactions between individuals which supplement the growth of the Enviro Council. As an individual I have grown from being able to support the president of the Enviro Council Aneeta Nelson both emotionally and in my duties. The Enviro Council truly fosters a sense of community within the niche group of individuals who want to contribute to solving the environmental problems that have been posed to the world in terms of global warming and the depleting fresh water supply. I am so honoured to have been able to lead a group of such passionate and hard-working students. My fellow Executive leaders have taught me to break free from the individual mindset, and instead ask and delegate duties to others who are willing to support me. I am grateful to Ms Duffy for being such an integral support for me during my time as the Enviro Council's Vice President, for her genuine passion about the Environment is so strong that it can foster and take root within the council as well. Thank you, St George, for having me as your Enviro Vice-President, and I cannot wait to see what the new leaders of 2021 can bring to the council.

Outgoing Senior Exec Ru Yun Liu:

Being an Enviro Council Leader, and specifically under the roles of a journalist and worm farm coordinator has given me wonderful opportunities to serve our school over the last two years. However, working on initiatives such as Speaking 4 the Planet and Green Day has been absolutely delightful, too. It has been a blast to connect with fellow friends over the passion for environmental sustainability. The Enviro Council allowed me to grow further as a St George leader and allowed me to connect with fellow peers across all year groups. A huge thanks to Mrs Duffy and the executive team for helping us to navigate this year, and best wishes to the 2022 Enviro Council Leaders!

The Enviro Council would like to thank the Year 12 Enviro Executive for their invaluable contributions to the council and wish them best of luck for their future endeavours!

Green Day

Mark the date St George, on **Wednesday 10 November – Week 6 is Green Day!** This annually held event is a deeply cherished and significant part of SGGHS culture, and we are looking forward to the school getting stuck in! The Enviro Council is working hard to get you the best quality workshops, so let's get excited!

Green X Talks

Keep an eye out for a form about Green X Talks, where you submit a short video or poster on an approved topic regarding the environment and win prizes for the best submission! Coming Soon!

Jashan Singh – Gazette Journalist (Year 11)

Parents and Citizens' Association

Welcome back to Term 4. It is so wonderful to have the school back to face-to-face teaching. I'm sure all parents are relieved that remote learning has ended. We thank all the teachers and staff for their flexibility and resilience during lockdown. Last P&C meeting our guest speaker was Ms Jenny Quah, relieving Head Teacher of TAS who showed us the many creations that the students have made with the 3D printer funded through P&C contributions.

We are delighted to advise that Bunnings BBQ fundraisers are back on! We have booked a date of Sunday 28 November 2021 at Rockdale Bunnings. All volunteers must be 16 years or over and fully vaccinated. If you or your daughter (Year 12 last chance!) would like to volunteer your time to assist please email phil.anderson@optusnet.com.au.

A reminder we have the 2021-2022 digital Sydney Entertainment Book for sale. You will receive instant access to the Entertainment digital Membership app that allows you to redeem great offers directly from your iPhone or Android and guaranteed to pay for itself through all the great discounts on offer. Purchase the new 12 month digital memberships at our payment page here.

<https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/203j324>

Sharon Khan
President P&C
SGGHS.pca@gmail.com

Mothers' Committee

President's Report

Welcome back to Term 4, 2021. The Mothers' Committee met on Wednesday 6 September and Wednesday 3 November 2021. At the first meeting, Ms Romeo discussed arrangements for the return of students to school, following health and safety protocols, and the "Year 12 Study Bubble" to enable Year 12 students to study together and reconnect in small groups in the lead up to their HSC. At the second meeting Ms Romeo stated that students have returned to school safely and that all staff working on site are fully vaccinated. She outlined the further easing of restrictions from 8 November which will allow greater freedom.

Mandy Hook, former parent at the school and Uniform Shop manager, has resigned from her position after several years. Mandy has a deep level of knowledge and experience regarding the successful operation of the uniform shop. We greatly appreciate all of her hard work, enthusiasm, dedication and innovations and will miss her very much. Mandy Nguyen is the new Uniform Shop Manager.

We welcome back Hui Chen as our Mothers' Committee Secretary and wish Thanh Nguyen all the best.

After much planning and hard work by many people, the new school uniform has started to arrive. We look forward to being able to initially fill online orders for students currently in Year 9 who are moving into the senior uniform in 2022, followed by the new Year 7 students. Please see the Vice-President's report regarding these details.

A draft document regarding the roles and responsibilities of Mothers' Committee Executive Members is in the final stages of being developed. This will assist in preparing mothers who would like to become involved in this service to the school, its staff, students and mothers in the future, as well as providing a guideline for current members. Thank you to Mrs Marianne Skinner for her hard work on this, and to those who contributed to the discussions surrounding it.

I am pleased to announce that our next Mothers' Committee meeting will be in person at 10am on Wednesday 8 December 2021 in the Library. Normally the meeting is held on the first Wednesday of the month and this change is for this meeting only due to the HSC. We hope to see many mothers at this meeting which will be our final one for the year, a celebration of being back together again and of our achievements through the year.

Finally, we would like to wish all of the Year 12 students all the best for their HSC exams.

Cathy Anderson
President
Mothers' Committee
Ph: 0423 533 855
Phil.anderson@optusnet.com.au

Vice President's Report

Uniform Shop News

We are happy to announce the launching of SGGHS Online Uniform Shop on Wednesday 10 November.

The new easy-to-use Uniform Shop Online, ensures parents have access to selecting and purchasing their daughter's uniforms in an easy and efficient manner.

<https://schoolshoponline.net.au>

Please keep an eye out for an email update containing step by step instructions on how to register and use the online store. All previous forms of ordering are now obsolete, as the online platform is the only channel for ordering uniform items.

More good news is that the current uniform will be on sale at discounted prices, presenting significant savings to families. And a reminder that the new style SGGHS uniform is only available to the 2022 incoming Year 7 and Year 10 cohort.

We appreciate your patience and look forward to seeing you in person when Covid-19 restrictions are eased, as the Uniform Store is likely to remain closed for the remainder of the 2021 school year, in accordance with the latest Department of Education Covid-19 Safe School Operations model.

The Uniform Shop is run by parent volunteers, and we could use your assistance on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 November.

If you would like to volunteer, please feel free to contact us at the Uniform Shop at

sgghsuniform@gmail.com

With best wishes to you and your family,

Nadisa Milo

Vice President and Uniform Shop Coordinator

Ph: 0404 424 364

All profits from the sale of uniforms are donated back to our school.

St Georgians

2021 has been another very challenging year for students, school staff and parents and we congratulate everyone on their outstanding efforts and achievements throughout the year. The St Georgians wish all the very best to Year 12 students for their HSC exams and beyond as they leave the school. We look forward to seeing many of them at the Year 12 Excellence Awards Ceremony early next year as many of the prizes for these awards are donated each year by The St Georgians.

We invite all ex-students and staff 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.

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. There are no monthly meetings scheduled for the rest of this year. 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

Kim Archibald

President

0410 582 636

Heather Jennings

Secretary

9501 4641



St George Girls Make News!

ST GEORGE & SUTHERLAND SHIRE
Leader

OCTOBER 10 2021 - 8:00AM

St George actress Mabel Li stars in new SBS period drama *New Gold Mountain*

Jess Layt

When St George's Mabel Li visited the Ballarat Gold Mine area as a tourist in her childhood, she never could have expected she'd be back there to work in the years ahead.

But that's just what the actress did, and she can soon be seen in the new SBS period drama *New Gold Mountain*.

The series, which premieres on Wednesday, October 13, is set primarily in the Chinese camp at the goldfields and follows a collection of characters as a murder mystery unfolds within the machinations of the site.

Former St George Girls High School student Li plays Lei, whose powerful father sent her to oversee the work produced by the 'brotherhood' in the camp run by headman Shing (Yoson An, *Mulan*).

"It's a really juicy role," Li told the *Leader*.

"When I first read the script, I was really struck. She's flawed and she's very strategic and political cunning.

"There's also this other side to her that's really quite vulnerable."

Li said it was exciting to play a character who had more power than many of her contemporaries of the era but whose freedom and safety was far from concrete.

She said Lei had "a lot of fun doing her job" - something the actress experienced on set in Ballarat as well.

"I thought they did such an amazing job with the set that I got lost in it," Li said.

"It was great to film in the bush. I think it's a really big blessing when you can film on location.

"I felt really immersed in it."

Working with costars like An and Alyssa Sutherland (*Vikings*) was "amazing", Li said, and they all got to know each other really well in "our own little COVID bubble".

New Gold Mountain was filmed about a year ago, and Li can't wait for people to be able to sink their teeth into it finally.

"I feel really excited for everyone to see it and what the team has done with it," she said.

"Get ready for some gripping mystery, some heart, brotherhood.

"This show has three really distinct women - obviously Lei, but also Alyssa Sutherland's character Belle and Hattie, who's played by the amazing Leonie Whyman.

"I definitely haven't seen something like this before. I don't feel like the show tries to simplify the politics or the intersectionalities at play in that particular time for the audience - it doesn't shy away from how flawed or messy that time was.

"Those things echo to this day and we're still, Australia is still, coming to terms with its history.

"It's really important and I'm glad we get to revisit our history with a new gaze."

***New Gold Mountain* premieres 9.30pm, Wednesday, October 13 on SBS and SBS On Demand and is subtitled in Arabic, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean.**



<https://www.theleader.com.au/story/7457467/st-george-actress-mabel-li-stars-in-new-sbs-period-drama/>



Coming Events

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| Tuesday 9 November | Gazette issued on school website and emailed to parents and students |
| Tuesday 9 November - Friday 3 December | Commencement of Higher School Certificate Examinations |
| Wednesday 10 November | Green Day |
| Thursday 11 November | Year 11 History Extension Enrichment Day Year 9 Peer Support Introduction |
| Monday 15 November | Year 7 Check-in Assessments |
| Tuesday 16 November | Year 8 Check-in Assessments |
| Wednesday 17 November | Year 9 Check-in Assessments |
| Thursday 18 November - Wednesday 24 November | Year 11 HSC Assessment Block 1 |
| Thursday 25 November | Parents and Citizens' Association Meeting, Staff Common Room, 7pm |
| Monday 29 November | Year 10 Personal Best Interviews |
| Monday 6 December | Year 12 Sign-out Day |
| Tuesday 7 December | Year 12 Graduation |
| Wednesday 8 December | Mothers' Committee Meeting, Library, 10am |
| Thursday 9 December | Presentation Day |

It is important that payment for excursions is made to the Finance Office or Online prior to the due date.