

Minister's and Secretary's Awards for Excellence 2018



Each year, the Minister's and Secretary's Awards for Excellence are given to recognise those who have made major contributions as role models to their peers, their schools and school communities, celebrating excellence within the State's public education system.

School captains, Chloe Lawler and Callum Trethowan, were two of the ninety-one individuals and schools from across NSW acknowledged for their outstanding achievement in public education in a ceremony at Town Hall on Wednesday afternoon, 29 August. Both received the prestigious Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement, awarded for achievement in the academic, sporting, cultural and leadership fields, commitment to the school community and personal values.

Chloe and Callum were further honoured in being chosen to be the face of public education students and present the Vote of Thanks on their behalf, acknowledging and celebrating the impact of their school specifically and public education more broadly in achieving their success. Their speech and polished delivery was roundly acknowledged during the evening as a showcase of the talent and quality of students within public education.

Their Vote of Thanks is reproduced below.

Callum: Good afternoon, Minister, Secretary, distinguished guests, fellow award-recipients, parents and educators. Thank you for attending the 2018 Ministers Awards for Excellence in Student Achievement. I am Callum Trethowan, school captain of Galston

High School. With me I have Chloe Lawler, my fellow school captain. We are proud to be two of the 37, 2018 award-recipients of the Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement. We are honoured to be receiving this award and even more honoured to deliver the Vote of Thanks on behalf of all the recipients amongst such distinguished company.

To begin, we would like to thank and acknowledge:

- *The Honourable Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Education*
- *Mr Mark Scott AO, Secretary of the NSW Department of Education*
- *Mr David Hetherington, Executive Director of the Public Education Foundation*

Your support of public education lays the cornerstone for the democracy we all share in this lucky country of ours.

I know that I speak on behalf of all the award recipients here today when I say that our success is directly attributable to the many schools, teachers and parents that make up our public education system. As a product of that learning community, I know that we are all deeply appreciative of this remarkable organisation that supports more than 800,000 students across diverse settings, diverse backgrounds and diverse communities to deliver outstanding educational results.



The success of public education derives from it being a microcosm of the wider Australian society: public education provides a rich curriculum of academic and other opportunities, no matter the background, ability, socio-economic status or gender of students. In the process, it creates a tolerant, inclusive and respectful society, built on shared values and a vision of equality for all.

Within our school, Galston High School, our core values of respect, responsibility and personal best have been instrumental in guiding my education. Personal best, in particular, has been instrumental in my success at school, inspiring me to work to my limits and then seek the assistance of others to go beyond them. This approach has also translated into all other aspects of my life outside the classroom: at the start of 2018, my HSC year, I was diagnosed with a giant cell tumour in my jaw. The experience has been transformative, asking a great deal of me in terms of character and determination. With the encouragement of the many communities to which I belong, the support of my school and the public education system more broadly, I have been able to be greater than the challenge I now face. That is just one story of course, my story, but I know that there are many others who will receive awards here today who have faced their own challenges and overcome them, too,

because of the guidance public education provides and the dedication of those who make up its numbers. For all of those who have been supported by public education, I say a profound thank you for your tireless encouragement.

Chloe: For my part, Galston High School has laid a foundation of service and leadership within the community. Public education has been complimentary to all of my pursuits outside of school, which has included leadership within the Scouting movement, volunteering for organisations and charities, celebrating and commemorating various community events and functions, assisting in fundraising for numerous causes and always encouraging youth to be active participants in their society. I attribute much of this spirit of engagement and giving-back to the role models I have encountered in public education. Like Callum, that is just my story, but I know it is also a story emblematic for many of the award-recipients here today who have been inspired to invest back into their community, their society, their country through a sense of repaying the enormous investment that has been made in us through public education.

To conclude, and on behalf of all of the award-recipients, I wish to acknowledge how appreciative we are for The

Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement: it is an incredible accolade to launch our journey into life beyond school. It fills us with an incredible sense of what can be accomplished and with that spirit we will always be proud ambassadors of public education.

A special final thank you to all the parents for your support and to the school staff and teachers for the day-to-day commitment it takes to put such lofty goals into practice. It is the human face of public education that is its greatest asset and its greatest product.

Thank you.





Mia Rowe - Captain

My name is Mia Rowe and I am honoured to be the female Galston High School Captain for 2018 - 2019. Prior to attending Galston High, I spent my primary years at Glenorie Public School, where I first discovered my interests within the arts. Whether it was painting our family tree, or performing in the school plays, I was enjoying every moment. The school taught me the importance of community, and successfully displayed this value in the seven years I attended. This is why I'm excited to go back and work with Glenorie Public, alongside Vice Captain Michael Ferlauto, whom is also an ex-student of Glenorie.

For the HSC I am currently studying English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, Ancient History, Music 1, Drama, and Visual Arts. I'm unsure of the career I want to pursue, although I am currently looking at universities that focus on performing and visual arts. Recently I've also looked into criminology and psychology courses, as they have struck an interest. Travelling has always been a goal of mine, therefore I wish to take a gap year before continuing my study after high school.

What I like most about Galston High School is the opportunities we are given as students. Over the past five years I have been involved in many leadership teams and extra-curricular activities. I have been a part of the house leadership team for two years, taken on the role of Vice President in the SRC team, and performed the role of Marty in Galston's production of 'Grease'. These opportunities have pushed me outside my comfort zone, allowing me to further grow my confidence and capability.

As one of the newly elected School Captains, I acknowledge the responsibility and

dedication needed, although I am ready to take on the role and influence others as I have been influenced previously. I look forward to working with our Prefect team and wish to not only continue the progress made in the past, but also achieve new goals to shape our vision of the school. I'm excited for the year ahead and feel privileged to be a part of the 2019 Galston Prefect Team.



James Cairns - Captain

My name is James Cairns, and I am especially honoured to be elected as one of the most prestigious roles in the school, School Captain, from 2018 - 2019.

In primary school, I attended Dural Public School from Kindergarten to Year 6. These years of my life were the most fun and carefree, and although these memories feel old they are still incredibly important to me, as I had a great experience because of the supportive learning environment and the influence of friendly and empathetic teachers. I feel that Dural Public also set me up well for high school, as the teachers always encouraged us to work together and try new experiences. There have been many highlights in high school, but by far the best ones involve camps and excursions, where there was always something fun and engaging to participate in.

For my upcoming HSC I am studying Mathematics Advance, English Advanced, Physics, Business Studies, Software Design and Development, and Engineering. I particularly enjoy Engineering, as I like designing and building things and understanding the fundamentals of how things work, and also enjoy Business Studies, as it gives an important and crucial understanding of a large chunk that makes up our modern day world. In the future, I am looking forward to going to university and studying a double

degree of Business and Engineering. I would then want to further specialise in Engineering, particularly mechanical engineering. Before studying at university, I would also like to take the time and take a gap year, to work and travel, to experience diverse and different places of the world.

At Galston High, there are many extra-curricular activities offered to all students. I have participated in many activities, gaining a sense of achievement and pushing my limits to help me develop as a unique individual. An example of one of these activities is Duke of Edinburgh. Duke of Ed helps students push themselves out of their comfort zones, and develop themselves as unique individuals, through hikes to really gain a sense of teamwork and communication. The sense of accomplishment and teamwork that you gain when the hikes are finished is unparalleled to many team activities, and you really gain a connection with the people that you have shared the experience with. I really like how Galston High strives to allow every student to achieve their personal best, by offering extra-curricular activities to help them develop and learn as individuals.

My ambition as School Captain, is to really make a change at Galston High, and have all the leaders, from the Prefect team, the SRC and the House Leaders communicate and work efficiently to create a unified school community and have greater awareness in the public community, making Galston High an enjoyable and exceptional school. I am incredibly excited to start my role as School Captain, and cannot wait to learn and experience the role that the Prefect team will play at Galston High, and what responsibilities come with that experience.



Maddy Gleeson - Vice Captain

My name is Maddy Gleeson and I am honoured to be Galston High School's female Vice Captain for 2018-19. I am so privileged and looking forward to be partnered with Middle Dural Public School and Galston Public School, alongside fellow prefect James Cairns.

From Kindergarten to the end of Year 2 I attended Middle Dural Public School, before moving to Galston Public School for the beginning of Year 3 until the end of Year 6. Both schools were very different in size and their overall atmosphere. Through these schools I experienced different ways of schooling and leadership, which really helped influence me as I grew up. Both primary schools enabled me to capture lifelong lessons and opportunities that will never be forgotten. They both allowed me to develop as a leader and encouraged me to get the most out of my schooling.

For my HSC I am studying English Advanced, Mathematics Advanced, PDHPE, Biology, Business Studies, and Visual Arts, with photography as my major. Beyond school I'm not completely sure of the exact path I want to take as of yet, but I would love to work and study the human body and its movement. I'm certain I want to go to university and pursue something related to Physiotherapy, Chiropractic work and Exercise Physiology, and possibly study a degree in Sports Science.

During my time at Galston High School I have participated in a large variety of extra-curricular activities, to represent our school to the best of my ability. In year 7 I was part of the school band and in year 8 I was in the poultry club. I have participated in several touch, Oz tag, futsal and soccer gala days as well as futsal and soccer state knockouts. I have completed Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh and am currently finishing my Gold Duke of Ed now. I have also been a House Leader for the Samurai house the last two years. These extra-curricular activities have pushed me out of my comfort zone and enabled me to extend my leadership knowledge, connect with the community and help influence others in a positive way.

Galston High School has provided me with a schooling experience I will never forget. The school has given me so many opportunities to grow and develop as a student and a leader. I find that we have amazing support

systems to meet the needs of the entire student body. I like how there is such a wide range of subjects and extra-curricular activities that cater for the interests of all students. In our school no one ever feels pressured into doing anything they don't wish to do but they are encouraged to step out of their comfort zone and that's what I find great about Galston High School.

My ambition as newly elected Vice Captain is to continue to move forward in our school community and to help influence even more positive change. I wish to be a role model younger students can look up to as I believe positive role models are an important part of anyone's life. I look forward to the upcoming year working closely with the rest of the Prefect team to continue the great work of the prefects before us as well as coming up with some new ideas on how to improve our school.



Michael Ferlauto - Vice Captain

My name is Michael Ferlauto and I am proud to be the Vice Captain of Galston High School alongside Maddy Gleeson for 2018/2019.

Before coming to Galston High School in 2014 I attended Glenorie Primary School from Kindergarten through to Year 6. In Year 6 at Glenorie I was elected to be the 2013 male School Captain which I believe helped develop my communication skills and showed me the importance of the local community. A couple of the many things I personally enjoyed at Glenorie were the close relationships between students and

teachers and the large amount of sporting gala days the school offered. I am very excited to go back and work with Glenorie Public School alongside our 2018/2019 School Captain Mia Rowe who was one of my classmates at Glenorie Public School.

Coming into my senior years I have chosen to study the following; English Standard, Mathematics Advanced, Engineering Studies, Physics, Industrial Technology (Woodwork), and Music in which I am planning to take through to the HSC. Personally I would like to think I am doing well in these classes and I also enjoy all of them.

After school I would like to study Engineering at university as I enjoy the subject at school and I have completed a week of work experience in this field which has helped me make this decision. Eventually I would like to own my own business in either engineering or use the knowledge gained by engineering in property development as I believe there is forever going to be job opportunities in this field.

At school I have participated in various extra-curricular activities including being a House Leader, taking part in various sporting teams and participating in the Duke of Edinburgh program. These extra-curricular activities have helped develop my understanding of the importance of teamwork and allowed me to push out of my comfort zone, especially on Duke of Ed which I participate in along with James Cairns, Maddy Gleeson and Samantha Ostavich who are all part of the 2018-2019 Prefect team. The program has tested us both physically and mentally, building up our characters and allowing us to develop new friendships.

Since year 7 I have really enjoyed Galston High School's environment both inside and outside the classroom as it has enabled me to develop good relationships between my teachers and fellow peers allowing me to make the most out of the very short time we have at high school. As a Prefect leader coming into year 12 I would love to be a role model for the younger students coming up through the junior years and be able to partake in various activities going on in the local community.

This Week

Monday 17 September

Year 10 Boys Program - periods 1&2 - van Baarle
All Schools Touch Football
Year 11 Excursion & Assessment Free
Year 12 Study Skills Finishing Line 10.05am

Tuesday 18 September

P&C Meeting
2019 SRC Induction
Year 11 Excursion & Assessment Free

Wednesday 19 September

Year 11 Excursion & Assessment Free
HUB Senior Class Work Experience - 9.00am - 2.00pm - Small
NRL Training Day - Year 9 Advanced Games - Smidt

Thursday 20 September

Year 11 Excursion & Assessment Free

Friday 21 September

Student Leadership Thank You Luncheon
Year 11 Excursion & Assessment Free
PSSA Refereeing - selected students
Years 7-9 - Whiteman
Staff vs Year 12 Soccer Match Lunch

Next Week

Monday 24 September

Year 11 Yearly Examinations
Year 10 Boys Program - period 1&2 - van Baarle

Tuesday 25 September

Year 11 Yearly Examinations

Wednesday 26 September

Year 12 Picnic Day
Year 11 Yearly Examinations
Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

Thursday 27 September

Year 12 Farewell Ceremony
Year 12 Formal
Year 11 Yearly Examinations

Friday 28 September

LAST DAY OF TERM
Year 7 Tobruk Excursion
Year 11 Yearly Examinations
PSSA Refereeing - selected students
Years 7-9 - Whiteman

Week 1 Term 4

Monday 15 October

Students & Staff return to school
Years 7 - 10 Excursion Free

Tuesday 16 October

Years 7 - 10 Excursion Free
Boys Knock Out U/15s Water Polo
House Leader Induction

Wednesday 17 October

Years 7 - 10 Excursion Free
HSC Assessment Information Evening
Boys Knock Out Water Polo

Thursday 18 October

Years 7 - 10 Excursion Free
HSC Commences

Friday 19 October

Years 7 - 10 Excursion Free
Sports Leadership Day - Year 9 PASS - selected students - Searle
Mitchell Youth Leadership Camp - Prefects - Andrus
Year 11 Study Skills - Student Elevation

Homework Club



Homework Club operates every Wednesday afternoon from 3.30 - 4.30pm.

Students can receive help from teaching staff with homework and assessment tasks, or simply utilise the Library computers and wifi to complete their work.

Please Note

*The Uniform Shop will be closed
on Thursday 27th September*

CAPA Faculty Focus...



There is always something happening in the CAPA Faculty and we are pleased to share some of the things that students are involved with, in this weeks Grapevine!

Students from our local partner primary schools were involved in the Bi-Annual GCoS Choir Workshop with Vocal Ensemble students from GHS. It was a great day of singing and music making, culminating in a combined performance that afternoon and then again on the second evening of EDFEST! GHS students were exemplary in their leadership, care and motivation of the younger students and all involved had a terrific day!



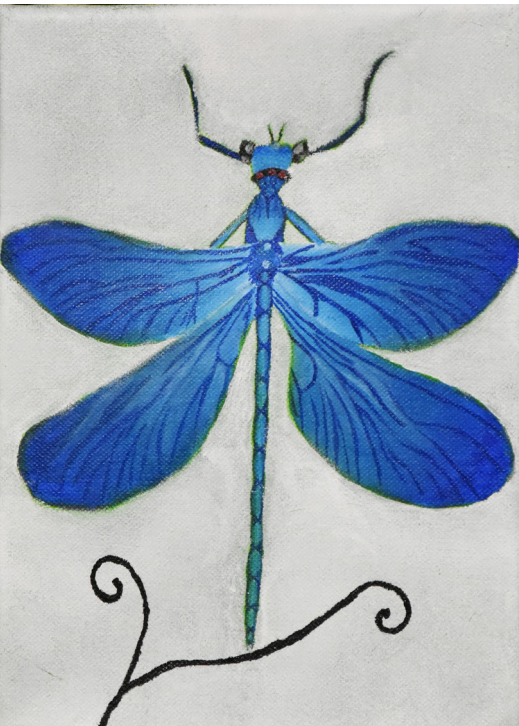
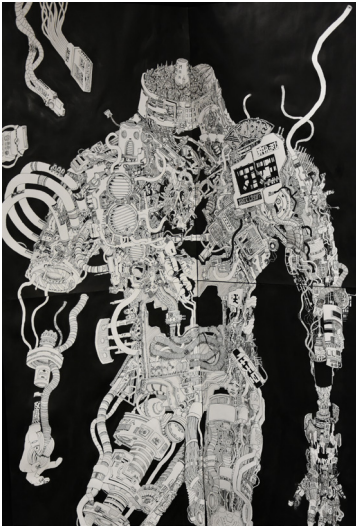
Year 12 Music 1 Course ready to perform their repertoire for the HSC markers last Wednesday.

We wish them well in their musical futures.

Edfest Highlights...



HSC Major Works Highlights...



During Week 5, the Student Librarian team along with Ms Arnold hosted a week of activities in celebration of Book Week to recognise the important role that reading has in our lives.

Each day featured a different activity, where students had the chance to celebrate their favourite characters, test their knowledge of books, deepen their understanding of creative writing, or create their own books.

Mystery Monday: Students raced around the school on a QR Code Treasure Hunt. Each QR code scanned contained a riddle that led them to a location around the school, where treasures from well-known books had to be found and collected.

Transfiguration Tuesday: Students and staff took great delight in recreating their favourite book characters. The attention to detail on some costumes was absolutely phenomenal. Best dressed in every year group went to:

- Yr 7: Kristian Zimmerman - Manga Girl
- Yr 8: India Dalton – As Edgar Allen Poe’s Raven
- Yr 9: Lillian Forsayth as Mary Poppins
- Yr 10: Keshav Saki as The Joker
- Yr 11: Georgia Harrold as Percy Jackson
- Yr 12: Taylor Brady as Beetlejuice

Writing Wednesday: A team of 10 students worked together to write and illustrate a 5000 word book within 12 hours as part of the Write a Book in a Day competition. At 8am, students were given unique parameters including three characters, a setting, a complication, and five random words that had to be worked into a unique story. The end result was a phenomenal dystopian story entitled The Cave.

While this challenge was incredibly stressful, all students involved exemplified Galston’s core values and demonstrating phenomenal communication and collaborative skills. The blurb of the story can be found below:

Trivia Tuesday: Twenty teams signed up for an intense round of literary Kahoot! In the library, with students eagerly vying for the top spot.

Famous Friday: Internationally renowned author and Children’s Laureate for 2018-2019 – Morris Gleitzman – visited our library to share the secrets to his creative writing process and answer questions on some of his most popular books. 130 Galston students and 20 primary students from the Galston Community of Schools joined us and were captivated by Morris’ speech and were able to have personal copies of his books signed.





Ethan was one of 40 year 11 school students from across NSW who attended a week long, fully subsidised residential course designed for attendees to gain a first-hand insight into financial markets and the many career paths open to them. Ethan was chosen after a rigorous application process that outlined just how outstanding this young man is.

Congratulations, Ethan for exemplifying our core value of Personal Best.

This is Ethan's report on his experiences at the UBS Financial Academy.

"The UBS Finance Academy was without a doubt worthwhile and I would strongly recommend anyone who is interested in finance to apply for this programme as the knowledge I gained and the friendships I made with other likeminded students made it such an outstanding experience."

Upon arrival at Dunmore Lang College, Macquarie University we had the opportunity to meet with the other students who came from schools from across New South Wales. We were then introduced to the programme by Alan, Sharon and Shannon who would guide us through the activities for the upcoming days. That afternoon we had a session on presentation skills which proved vital for our presentations to the UBS panel at the conclusion of the programme. Afterwards,



guest speaker Peter Ivett gave us an insight into the Myers Briggs personality indicator and how our personal attributes could be utilised in the corporate environment. The final session of the day saw us delve straight into financial maths and we learnt how to calculate important financial multiples which could affect investment decisions pertaining to trading equities in businesses or making mergers or acquisitions.

The following day we visited H2 Ventures at Tank Stream Labs, a highly successful startup incubator at the new Sydney Startup Hub near Barangaroo. Ben Heap from H2 Ventures gave us a tour of the new 11 storey complex which featured open-planned workspaces and this was an eye opener into the future of the corporate world. We also learnt about the rapidly growing area of fintech (financial technology) startups in Australia such as Afterpay and how these are creating new opportunities within the finance sector. We then walked to the UBS Office at the Chifley Tower where we were welcomed with a delicious morning tea and then we proceeded to attend a series of seminar talks by staff at UBS. We were given a rare insight into a day in the life of operations, equity research and investment banking. We learnt about many of the benefits of being involved in investment banking such as the ability to travel around the globe to meet different clients and work with their overseas teams (such as in London, Bern and Singapore).

After lunch we visited the trading floor at the UBS Office which remains the largest

trading floor in the Southern Hemisphere. It was exciting to see everything in action whilst the ASX 200 was still trading such as the professional Bloomberg Terminals and the frantic nature of the trading floor. We were quick to learn about the measures that investment banks have to comply with. In the afternoon, we were given a briefing for the case study which we were to present to the UBS panel in our groups on the final day. We were required to investigate the acquisition of Tatts Group by Tabcorp within the gambling sector which presented a number of challenges as Tatts Group had a significantly larger enterprise value than Tabcorp at the time.

The following day we visited the CNBC studios in Sydney where we saw the film and lighting equipment in action, we performed mock interviews on the set and then we were able to witness a live broadcast to the CNBC Global channel following the opening of the ASX 200. It was fascinating to see a live broadcast to such an internationally viewed channel as CNBC. Afterwards we went back to the UBS office to attend some more seminar talks pertaining to our case study.

After lunch we learnt about the cadetship programme at UBS and we had the opportunity to learn how they were enjoying both university and their roles at UBS. Most of the cadets only completed their HSC last year and thus it was an invaluable opportunity to learn about how they have made the jump from high school to studying and working part-time at an investment bank. In the evening, the canapé function was a fantastic opportunity to meet a number of staff members who work in different divisions at the UBS Office and it enlightened us to the wide variety of career opportunities that are available in investment banks.

On the final day, we all presented our case study in our groups and afterwards, we attended a formal graduation lunch where we were presented with our certificates and enjoyed a delicious main meal and dessert. This concluded the UBS Finance Academy programme and although we were exhausted from all the early mornings and late evenings we resented having to head home as it was such an enjoyable and interesting experience that we definitely will not forget.