

GALSTON HIGH SCHOOL

# GRAPEVINE

DECEMBER 2020

**GHS** GALSTON  
HIGH SCHOOL

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN 2020



### EXTRA CURRICULAR



**DUKE OF ED**  
Year 9 & 10 enjoy Kosciuszko  
National Park

### SPORT



**ATHLETICS SUCCESS**  
Robbie Flies high

### HOUSE SPIRIT



**MAKING A SPLASH**  
Swimming carnival highlights

### ACADEMICS



**PRESENTATION NIGHT**  
Award Recipients

# THANK YOU SCHOOL AND STAFF

## STEPHANIE KASSAPAKIS

A few months ago, it didn't look like we would be having this graduation ceremony at all. At best, graduation was going to happen via Zoom - and that was assuming Telstra could get their act together so everyone could connect!

But here we are together for this final chapter of our schooling.

That we have arrived at this moment is due to some very special people: our amazing teachers and our supportive parents. They are the ones that never gave up hope that things would get better for us this year, the ones that believed in us from day one of Year 7, and the ones that made this all happen tonight.

They are the ones who have strived for us to achieve our personal best throughout our schooling whilst teaching us life lessons we will never forget.

To our teachers: Galston High has some of the finest teachers anywhere. You have been a part of the fabric of our world, and the relationships we have built together have been truly special. Without you, we could never have reached our full potential as students. You have taught us valuable lessons both inside and outside the classroom.

You were the ones that encouraged us to apply for the uni degrees we wanted. You were the ones that believed in us through all the challenges of the last six years. You were the ones we could talk to to make sense of it all.

And, you were ones that imprinted TEEL paragraphs forevermore on brains! We will forgive you for that.

We would be here forever if I tried to list how every single teacher has positively influenced our lives. Perhaps its enough to simply say, thank you for being there for the happy times and for wiping the tears in those other times.

To our parents and families:  
Where on earth would we be without you?

Even though there may have been moments you wanted to pull your hair out when we said we threatened to drop out just days before the HSC exams, know that we are forever grateful for your love, patience and

support. You have been our rock throughout all these years of schooling, but this year, particularly, with all its challenges - expected and unexpected - you have been more appreciated, more needed and more loved than ever.

Even when you kept reminding us about how you had to make your own way to school back in the day - what was it again? a 10 mile hike through dense bush with no shoes in torrential rain and heatwave conditions, often simultaneously? - you never failed to drive us the 20 minutes to school each day secretly dreading the moment we didn't need you to drive us anymore.

Even though tonight is about us, its just as much about you. No doubt you are feeling the same dizzying mix of emotions we are: pride, joy and excitement, tinged with nervousness, to see what the future holds. The success and achievement we celebrate here is as much yours as it is ours. We couldn't have done it without you, so thank you for making us who we are today. We love you for all you have done.

And to the school:

As Year 7s, we never thought we'd be graduating in the year of a pandemic. Come to think of it, we didn't even know what a pandemic was back then.

Galston High School, we thank you for putting "normal" back into the "new normal." You brought all the pieces together when everything seemed so very broken in this last year. You are a school quite unlike others.

Whenever I am asked what I think of Galston High School, my answer is always the same.

Galston High School isn't a school of 2000 students  
Galston High School isn't a school where teachers don't know the kids' names.  
Galston High School isn't a school where students get treated like numbers.

Galston High School is a small, connected and caring community.

On behalf of Year 12, I'd like to thank the SRC, Rotary Club, welfare team, house leaders and student librarians who make up this community for the HSC survival kits, the

overall support and the day-to-day positive energy you have given us.

To Ms Tourlas, Mrs Petrulevich and the incredible exec team who lead this unique school community, the prefects and I could not have become the leaders we are without your guidance and confidence in us. We thank you for the opportunities you created for us and the role models of leadership you have been to us.

Whilst our time within this community is coming to an end, Galston High School will remain a part of us forever.

Last but certainly not least, to Mr Whiteman and Mrs Prior:

To Mr Whiteman:

You are more than our Year Advisor, you are the father figure to our year group.

You are a firefighter both outside and inside the school. The number of fires you have put out throughout our years at school is incredible. You dried our tears, you mended our friendships, you listened to our rants. You even carried us to sickbay when we were injured.

You were instrumental in creating a positive high school life for us. You asked us every day how we were going. You made the skies blue when we could only see grey. And you taught us the most valuable lesson of all, how to be a good person.

As a year group, we would have burst into flames if it weren't for you. At every set back and at every success you were there to cheer us on. Thank you so very much - we hope we have made you proud.

And to Mrs Prior:

We were never a year group that has had a steady assistant year advisor. It seems every time we got one, they'd ditch us for another year group a few weeks in. I never realised how exhausting we were! But we finally caught a keeper during our senior years!

Thank you for being in it for the long run. For your constant support and positive energy everyday and for stepping into this role with open arms, we are so very grateful.







# PRESENTATION NIGHT

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

Hornsby Shire Council Award for Service to the School Awarded to Amelie Stuut and Felicity Whiteman

The Matt Kean Prize for Leadership, Community Involvement and Excellence of Character Awarded to Chelsea Johnston

Julian Leaser Encouragement and Excellence in Character Award Awarded to Madi Corr

Ray Williams Encouragement Award Awarded to Amber Trethowan

Cheryl Johnston Award for Outstanding Contribution to School Life Awarded to Lillian Forsayth

Ruth Smith Memorial Encouragement Award for Personal Achievement Awarded to Rheyse Reynolds

ADF Long Tan Youth Leadership and Teamwork Award Awarded to Daisy Alexis

Dural Music Award for Commitment to Band Awarded to Isaac Reeves

West Pennant Hills/Cherrybrook Lions Club Excellence in Community Service Award Awarded to George Stepanovich and Mrs Lilly Stepanovich

### SPORTING AWARDS

The Kirsten Russell-Jones Memorial Award for Inspiration in Touch Football Awarded to Felicity Whiteman and Tahlia Cowan

Inspiration in School Sport Awarded to Cameron Philp

School Sport Encouragement Award Awarded to Evelyn Thomas and Joshua Forbes

Excellence in School Sport Awarded to Kirsty Granata

Champion House Swimming Carnival Awarded to Sophie Johnston on behalf of Samurai House Leader

House Spirit Champions Awarded to Cameron Philp on behalf of Vikings House Leader

### SCHOLARSHIPS

The Galston Club Encouragement Scholarship Awarded to Gypsy Sumner-Murphy

The Galston Club Hospitality Scholarship Awarded to Natasha Modde and Sophie Stout

The Galston Bendigo Community Bank Scholarship Awarded to Ashley Tkacz

### YEAR 11 AWARDS

The Galston Bendigo Community Bank Academic Achievement Award Awarded to Anisia Plaskitt

Reuben F Scarf Award for Commitment and Dedication Awarded to Lilli Clifton

### THE K3YS TROPHY

Awarded to:

#### YEAR 7

Morgan Glanville  
Taylor Davies  
Amelie Reeves  
Zak Sullivan  
Georgia Cleary  
Milla Olmos  
Benjamin Fraser  
Darci Lethlean  
Rachel Honor  
Ashleyne Mulkerrins

#### YEAR 8

Brandyn Burns  
James Butler  
Lily Dawson  
Max Fraser  
Josh King  
Bridget Lethlean  
KK Karki  
Annabel Needs  
Evelyn Thomas  
Aaron Lewer  
Cooper Alexis

#### YEAR 9

Momo Bonney  
Trinity Newbury  
Isaac Reeves

Massimo Pappalardo  
Serena Engall  
Catherine Engall  
Blake Mathie  
Amity Lownds  
Thomas Cornale  
Madi Corr

#### YEAR 10

Bailey Ramsay  
India Dalton  
Tom Banks  
Nick Brown  
Jacqueline Attard  
Jasmine Attard  
Sophie Stout  
Gypsy Sumner-Murphy  
Charlotte Lister  
Patrick Dowd  
Hudson Copeland  
Tegan Edwards  
Anastasia Camuglia  
Alyssa Collins  
Cameron McArthur  
Natasha Modde  
Carly Paton  
Nicholas Sultana  
Ella Mongan  
Aryana Jahromi  
Sophie Liddle

#### YEAR 11

Amelie Stuut  
Anisia Plaskitt  
Ashley Tkacz  
Caitlyn Davies  
Chelsea Johnston  
Eloise Barrett  
Jonas Russo  
Mykaela Hayhurst  
Nicola Schniering  
Sebastian Carran  
Tahlia Cowan  
Theodore Marlow  
Felicity Whiteman  
Lillian Forsayth  
Lilli Clifton  
Grace Kroll-Bennett

# PRESENTATION NIGHT

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

YEAR 7  
ACADEMIC  
DISTINCTION  
Georgia Cleary  
Taylor Davies  
Benjamin Fraser  
Morgan Glanville  
Rachel Honor  
Darci Lethlean  
Ashleyne Mulkerrins  
Milla Olmos  
Amelie Reeves  
Zak Sullivan

YEAR 7  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
Taylor Davies  
Mia Fantini  
Michelle Huang  
Hayley Mathie  
Amelie Reeves  
Amelia Welschinger  
Nina Wessen

YEAR 8  
ACADEMIC  
DISTINCTION  
Benjamin Banks  
Brandyn Burns  
Angus Cady  
Bree Collins  
Lily Dawson  
Maddison Hayhurst  
Angie Horan  
Jorja Reeve  
Monique Rubino  
Alyssa Vlouhos

YEAR 8  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
Toby Anderson  
Bree Collins  
Lily Dawson  
Angie Horan  
Dylan Lieu  
Brooke Stephenson

YEAR 9  
ACADEMIC  
DISTINCTION  
Momo Bonney  
Jesse Burton  
Brooklyn Chivers  
Madison Corr  
Yen Huang  
Sophie Johnston  
Blake Mathie  
Trinity Newbury  
Arella Plaskitt  
Isaac Reeves  
Eloise Welschinger

YEAR 9  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
Momo Bonney  
Jesse Burton  
Madi Corr  
Catherine Engall  
Sophie Johnston  
Isaac Reeves  
Kye Rotton  
Eloise Woellner

YEAR 10  
ACADEMIC  
DISTINCTION  
Alyssa Anderson-Moxham  
Jasmine Attard  
Thomas Banks  
Alyssa Collins  
India Dalton  
Cameron McArthur  
Carly Paton  
Bailey Ramsay  
Blake Stephenson  
Nicholas Sultana

YEAR 10  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
Daisy Alexis  
Jacqueline Attard  
Lachlan Baker  
Thomas Banks  
Anastasia Camuglia  
Alyssa Collins  
India Dalton  
Kaylee MacKenzie  
Cameron McArthur  
Carly Paton  
Blake Stephenson  
Khye Tschepen

YEAR 11  
ACADEMIC  
DISTINCTION  
Eloise Barrett  
Caitlyn Davies  
Mykaela Hayhurst  
Chelsea Johnston  
Theodore Marlow  
Anisia Plaskitt  
Jonas Russo  
Nicola Schniering  
Amelie Stuut  
Ashley Tkacz

YEAR 11  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
Lilli Clifton  
Henry Clissold  
Tahlia Cowan  
Caitlyn Davies  
Semra Evirgen  
Lillian Forsayth  
Chelsea Johnston  
Emily Leventhal  
Emma Lockrey  
Theodore Marlow  
Cameron Philp  
Anisia Plaskitt  
Ethan Pope  
Jonas Russo  
Ryan Sheehy  
Samantha Stout  
Ashley Tkacz







# NATIONAL WINNERS OF THE WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY COMPETITION!

Over the last 3 years, the Write a Book in a Day competition has been a cornerstone of the extra-curricular activities offered by Galston High School to support and develop student's creative writing and collaboration skills.

While thoroughly enjoyable, it is also an extremely gruelling experience. Trying to write, illustrate and edit a collaborative story within a 12-hour timeframe that meets the constraints of the parameters and audience is no mean feat! Inevitably, there are moments where tensions are high and tears are sometimes shed as the deadline looms closer. Still, the experience is a worthwhile one – without fail, I have seen students push themselves beyond what they thought they

were capable of, supporting each other and create some phenomenal artworks and stories.

Beyond participating in the annual Write a book in a Day competition, the 32 students who undertook the challenge have also sought out other extracurricular opportunities to develop their creative writing skills. Over the last three years, these students have attended Author in Residence programs, attended and interviewed authors at the Sydney Writer's Festival, and participated in Creative Writing Workshops run within the school. This year, their hard work and determination finally paid off. Not only did the GHS Diversity team win the State Division for best book in their age cate-

gory, but they won the National award – meaning their entry, Painted Paws, was the best entry in the entire country!

I am incredibly proud of their efforts this year – this result is testament to their attitude, determination and writing and illustrating talents.

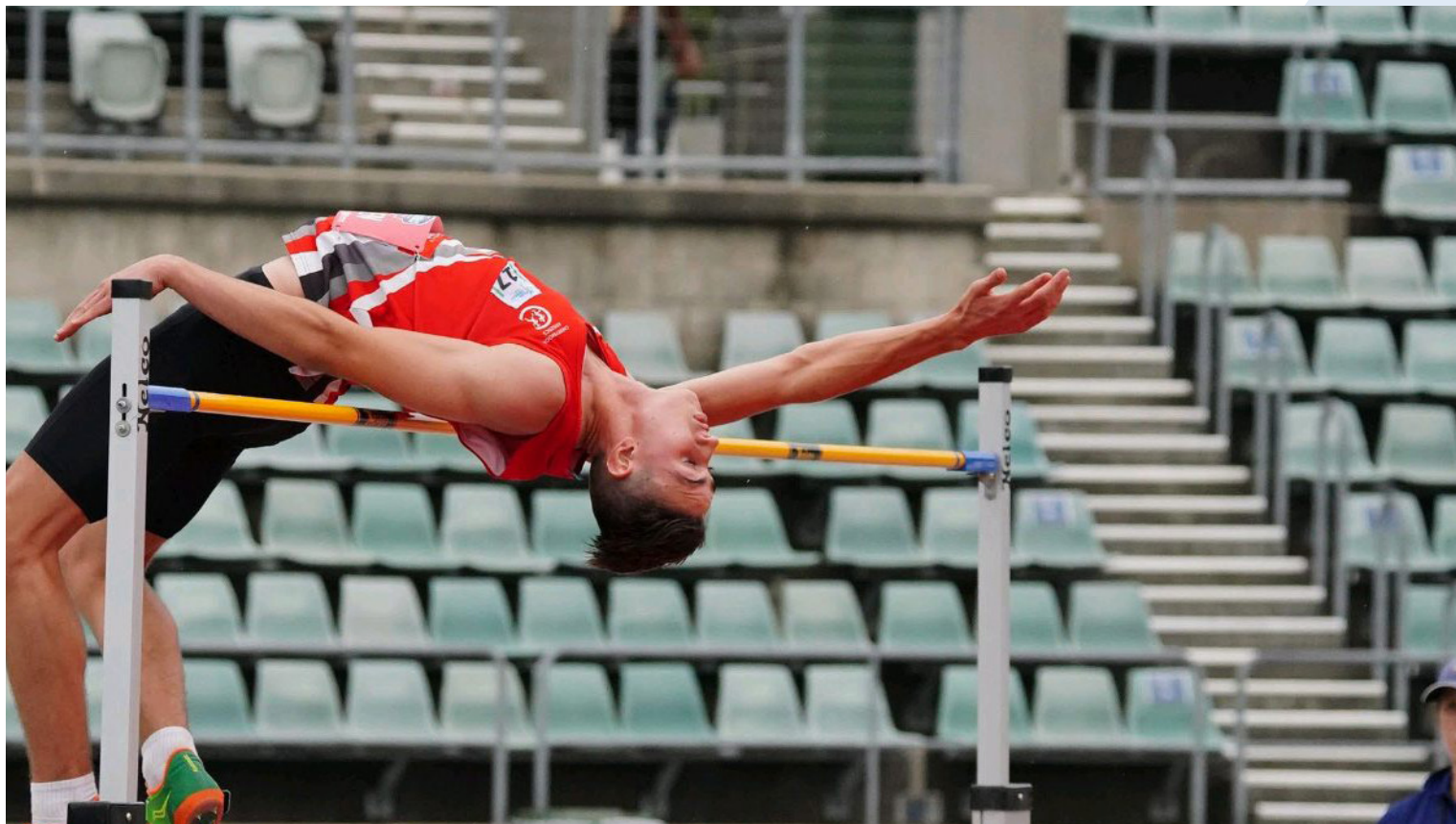
Congratulations to Momo Bonney, Yen Huang, Eloise Woellner, Emily Victory, Koda Noyce, Angie Horan, Lillyan Stewart and Catherine Engall. You have truly exemplified our school's core value of Personal Best, and we can't wait to see what amazing stories you produce in the future!

- Jade Arnold  
Teacher Librarian





# ROBBIE MEDALS AT CHAMPIONSHIPS



Robbie Cullen of Year 11 represented Galston High School at the NSW Allschools Athletics Championships held at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre, Homebush between the 3rd and 6th of December.

Robbie won bronze medals in the 16 yr boys high jump and 400m hurdles, and placed 6th in javelin. A highlight for Robbie was his high jump, where he competed against last year's national highjump champion, and he jumped a 6cm personal best to clear 2.02m. This is the first time Robbie has jumped over 2metres.





# DUKE OF ED REPORT



At the beginning of this term, after the chaos of covid, it was to great relief and excitement that the students and staff involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's award program received word that our adventurous journeys could go ahead. The result was two hikes scheduled back to back and two more approaching as the term comes to an end.

The first hike, which took place over the 13th and 14th of November involved our Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students hiking through Marramarra National Park. For many of them, this was their first time staying in tents, carrying a full pack, and cooking themselves dinner over a camp stove. Despite the threat of storms and hot weather, the students rose to the challenge. Working together as a team and learning many valuable skills. Despite the challenging conditions

on the first day, which included one very steep hill, students settled into camp and enjoyed an evening of playing footy and games of cards. They then rallied for the second day of hiking—impressing both the staff and themselves with their resilience.

As Jack Hayes from Year 9 said “Duke of Ed is an experience like no other. I would strongly recommend giving it a go. The things I learned while on the hike couldn't be taught in an ordinary classroom.”

The second hike was our Gold Adventurous journey where Year 12 students spent five nights camping and hiking through Kosciuszko National Park. Emily Leventhal from Year 12 had this to say about her hike. “Gold Duke of Ed was a magical experience, not only for the

amazing hikes and views but for how it brings a group of people together. Every night, we played cards, ate food together (laughed when a kangaroo ate from Henry's pot) and sat around the campfire. A group of people I barely knew became people I call friends. We saw countless brumbies, kangaroos and a feisty lizard (it seems the snakes knew we were coming and hid). I highly recommend the Duke of Edinburgh scheme to every student.”

After a tough year, these hikes have been amazing opportunities for our students to grow and develop while challenging themselves, and I am incredibly excited to see them further develop as they progress through the program.

Madison Murrell





# SWIMMING CARNIVAL HIGHLIGHTS





# HOUSE LEADER REPORT



The new 2021 house leader team was chosen at the end of last term, and we have already started to do some activities. We are a very young team, ready to lift the school spirit and become great role models for the younger years. Being a house leader is a great opportunity for young students to become leaders and learn lifelong skills. The swimming carnival was an incredible experience. The event has now changed to term 4 due to some scheduling issues, but it ended up turning out better, since it was hotter and more people were encouraged to swim because of the amazing new house leaders. We had some great events, such as the Year 7 noodle race, Year 12 big splash contest and the incredible battle between Blake Mathie and

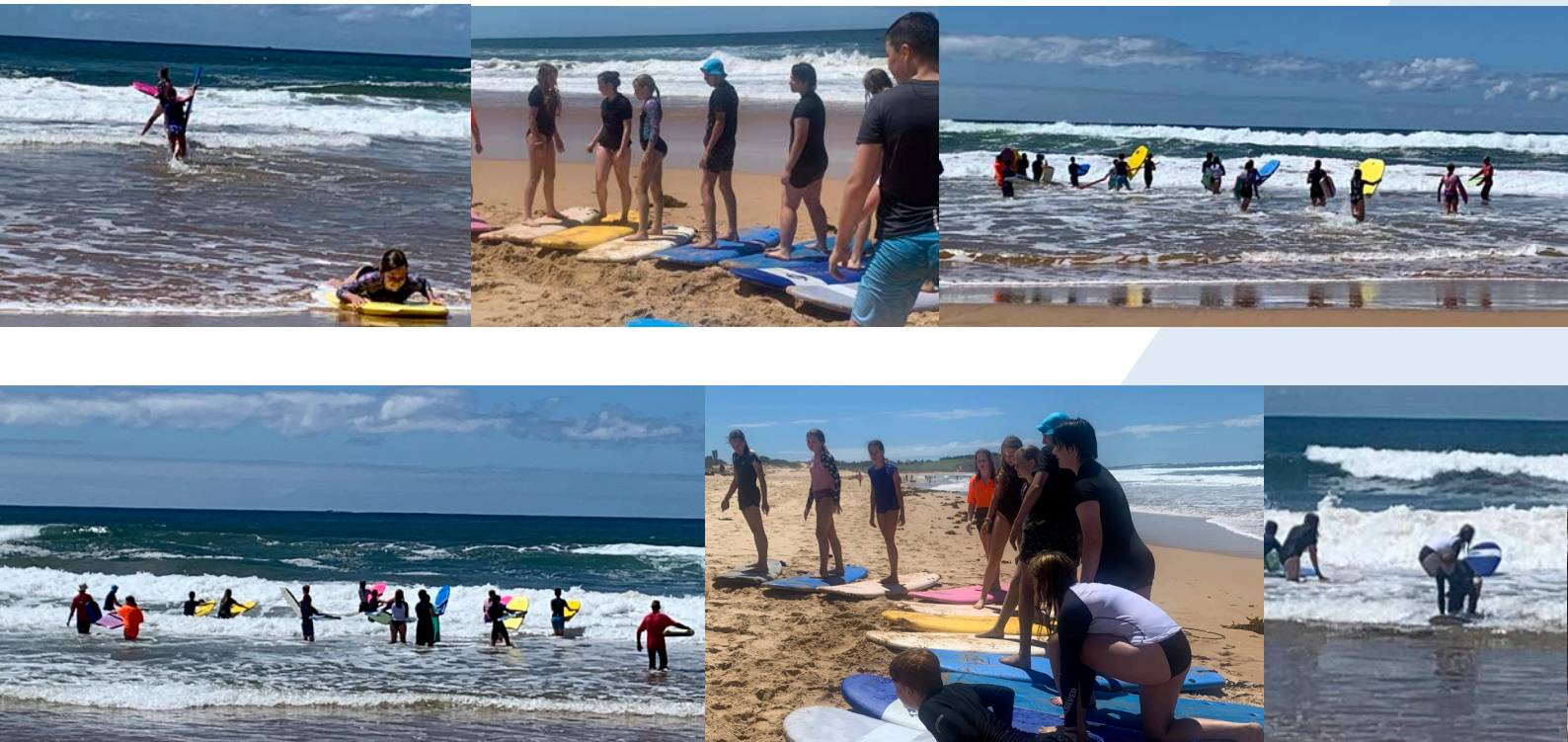
his furious rival Xavier Pedro. We introduced some new fun relays this year. The year group relay was won by Year 9 and the Student Leadership relay was obviously won by us! We all had a great time and are excited for the swimming carnival next year.

This year, the house leaders ran a new event, the handball competition. Blake Mathie, one of the 2021 house leader was able to take out the win for Vikings in the juniors comp while Mr Gage was victorious in the seniors comp, taking the house points for Samurai. It was a great fun event for all the competitors and was a nice throwback to primary school. All in all, the handball competition a very successful event and we hope to build on it next year.

Last week we were privileged enough to introduce the 2021 Year 7s to our school. It was exciting to see the new generation of students enjoy their introduction to high school and get an idea of what it is like. We are also looking forward to showing them around again on day one and Year 7 camp. Still coming up this term is our annual Mario cart competition. Will Mr Hood get a three peat this year? We also have a many other events planned for next year and can't wait to run and compete in these.

Jackson Davies and Jesse Burton  
Year 9 House Leaders

# YEAR 7 GOES SURFING



First of all, we caught a bus from school to Long Reef at about 8:30 on Tuesday morning. Once at Dee Why, we were all taken to a lush green patch of grass and the instructors taught us every step by step how to board and ride a surf board safely. After we had gone through all the steps and rules we had to collect our surf boards. We had to walk a really long way across the beach dragging the boards behind us. Finally after reaching the designated spot we could run out into the glistening water and show our swimming skills before starting the remainder

Roberto

The last thing we did was surfing. First we learnt how to stand up including the importance of the correct hand and feet placement. Despite the correct information we went in and caught some small waves, but, unfortunately we fell off a lot showing how difficult a skill surfing really is!

Lilah

In the water I couldn't catch any waves because at first it was quite hard. After many attempts ending with failure I finally caught a wave only to fall off the board which caused me to face plant into the sand which tasted disgusting!

Taylor

Body boarding was the best because we could move the board wherever we wanted avoiding crashing into anyone else. In contrast when surfing it was difficult to stand up longer than ten seconds without falling off the board.

Majitha

Ben, our surf coach, showed good humor as he made a joke about helicopters the joke was; as soon as we arrived to the beach to swim out to the helicopter and be winched to safety. We were fortunate to witness the practice rescues although it had made listening to the instructors a little difficult. Overall a wonderful experience, I would definitely recommend surf ed to following years. we learnt many lessons about the ocean, how to surf and to boogie

board correctly. The instructors had an amazing sense of humor making jokes as we went making the experience even more fun. I had never surfed before this but I had such a fun time learning, I fell off so many times but got back up and kept going. I went home wanting to do it again.

Jess

I would recommend surf Ed and I would definitely do it again. It was such an awesome experience as I had never surfed before.

Nina

Surf Ed was a positive experience because it was a sunny day and on the as there was a upbeat vibe due to the fun music playing by Leo and Zane. A number of students put zinc on their face for preparation for a day in the sun. Everyone was warned by teachers on the way to ensure they put sunscreen on as well but alas! the advice was not taken by some with 'braveheart' face fashion evident the following day!

Ben



# CRICKET DEVELOPMENT DAY



On the 19 of November Miss Smidt put together a cricket gala day for all girls in years 7 and 8 who are interested. In the morning we all went down to Hayes Oval and meet with two representatives from Cricket NSW. First, we did a catching drill where you try and see how many catches we could do in 5 minutes that drill was lots of fun. Then we went on to reflexes I personally had fun with that drill because I learnt how fast I could react to cricket balls and tennis balls. After that we went on to batting. All the girls loved hitting tennis balls off cones. After that we did a drill where we were throwing tennis balls at one stump and if you miss your partner on the other side would pick it up and then have a shot at the stumps.

Lots of girls loved it and we all had so much fun towards the end of the day we played tennis volleyball that was definitely my personal favourite but after that we played a bit of a game where the Sydney thunder took home a win beating the Sydney Sixers. At the end of the game, I could see that all the girls had so much fun and we are all looking forward to next year's gala day. Also we are looking forward to introducing lots of new girls to the wonderful Cricket community in years to come, so thank you to all the people who were involved in making this day happen and thank you to Miss Smidt for giving us this opportunity.

By Halle Newbury  
Year 7





# WHEELCHAIR SPORTS

## YEAR 10 PASS



Our whole class enjoyed the wheelchair sports visit on Monday 16th November especially since we learned how to use a wheelchair while playing both AFL and basketball. We soon realized how hard it would be to be restricted to a wheelchair all day everyday and to prove that point at the end of the session we all had blisters on our hands. Brendon talked to us about how he has been restricted to a wheelchair his whole life, he also told us about what the average day looks like for him in a chair including the struggles that started from the minute he woke up to the minute until he went to sleep at night. We all had a great time playing AFL and basketball in wheelchairs and realised how lucky we were to be able to leave the chairs at the end of the day and continue on with our normal lives.

-Ashley Townsend

Brendon explained to us how hard it is to do everyday tasks some as simple as getting changed in the morning and to illustrate this to us he got Jarrod, Aidan and myself to try putting on our spare pair of shorts while sitting in a wheelchair. We struggled big time to do this without using our legs and feet

showing that for some people such a simple everyday task can be frustratingly challenging.

-Nick Webb

At the end of the session to test the skills of the group Brendon organised some races with the regulation forward wheeling showing the acceleration of Nick in particular while Jarrod shone in the change of direction race (from forwards to backwards) while most of the remainder of the group lost total control (very amusing to watch). This inability to stop the wheelchair was also seen throughout the competitions with Armin and Ayden in particular colliding with the walls as they were striving so hard to compete for their respective teams while Brianna, Elise, Jarrod and Owen were so forceful that they often found negotiating the wheelchairs of others virtually impossible.

All participants should be congratulated on their teamwork which was highly encouraging with the adaptation shown in the AFL in regard to handpassing being most impressive as the "behinds" quickly transformed into 6 pointers as the ses-

sion progressed. Both Brendon and Jessica from the wheelchair sports association were full of praise for the students as they had only just introduced this sport and were amazed at how quickly they mastered the basics and started to display advanced attacking plays. After lunch the challenge changed to the sport of Basketball and shooting especially appeared to be a struggle. Fortunately both teams recognised that certain players including Ashley, Brianna, Sean and Jack had a better shooting percentage and the ball ended up in their hand more frequently as the key was approached. In an epic contest where the Blue team seemed likely to win (as they had held the lead for most of the afternoon) the Reds hit a form streak as 3.00pm approached and managed to score the final 2 baskets to win 25-20. (little did we know this was going to be a blueprint for the final state of origin game two days later!) Overall it was a memorable day where the students had an opportunity to empathise with the challenges of wheelchair athletes, strive significantly and push themselves out of their comfort zone and take on board the message of keeping safe and minimising unnecessary risk taking.



# REMEMBRANCE DAY REPORT



On Tuesday 11th November, the school stopped to reflect and commemorate Remembrance Day. This ceremony was held virtually over TEAMS from the library and was led by the new Prefect Team. Jorja began the ceremony by providing the Welcome to Country, where she handed the ceremony over to George and Nicola who reflected on what Remembrance Day was and why it is so important for all Australians to pause at 11am on this day. Theo read

the poem "In Flanders Field" and Mr Gage provided the Prayer of Remembrance. Students stood whilst Emily L read the Ode and Ms Whittell-Webb played the Last Post and the Rouse prior to the Advance Australia Fair being played. It was a solemn ceremony, with the Prefect Team leading a moving ceremony, even though under different circumstances.



# HILLS HAWKS FOOTBALL CLUB 2021 SEASON



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SCHOOL STUDENTS**



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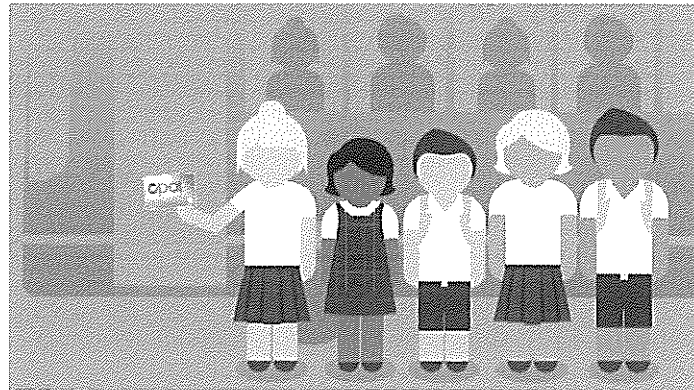
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# School Travel for 2021



## 2021 school travel applications are now open

Applications for student travel in 2021 opened from Monday 12 October 2020.

Students who require a School Opal card or travel pass for 2021 can now apply online. A new application should be submitted if a student is applying for a school travel pass for the first time or requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation (e.g. joint custody).

Students who have changed school/campus, changed address, repeated a year or received an expiry notification from Transport for NSW for their school travel entitlement should re-apply or update their details.

\*Applications must be completed by the student's parent or legal guardian if the student is aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete the application form themselves.

Where there is a change of distance eligibility based on a student's grade, the system will automatically update a student's entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new eligibility criteria, they will receive an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition which is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

Term Bus Pass holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

If a student needs to update their information or re-apply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>

Applications need to be submitted before **31 December 2020** to ensure that current student entitlements are updated and their current entitlement/card remains valid. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2020, the system will automatically cancel an entitlement/card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for a SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2021.



# BYOD EXPECTATIONS



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is a program in which students bring a personally owned device to school for the purpose of learning.

## Why BYOD?

Many students want to use their own device that they can also use at home and ownership of devices has increased substantially in recent years. With changes in the work force, students need to be able to use technology to collaborate and communicate appropriately.

## What types of devices do we specify?

As a minimum:

a laptop, iPad/tablet or Chromebook  
minimum screen size of 9.7 inches

wireless capability of 5GHz  
battery life of at least 6 hours.

Not sure what to buy or use?

It can be overwhelming when trying to decide what device to buy or repurpose for your child. To help, read our BYOD Guide first. If you wish to purchase a device, an external supplier, Learning with Technologies, can help.

For more information on BYOD, including:

specifications on the suitable devices,  
how to connect to the school wifi,  
free software available to all students including Microsoft Office and the Adobe suite.

# STUDENT/PARENT PORTAL

The student and parent portal is part of the school's intranet and is a place students and parents can visit to access student-specific school-related information. The portal displays a copy of each student's personal details such as home address and parent and emergency contact details, which you are able to check. It also enables access to school newsletters, academic reports, student timetables and attendance, as well as a number of other features.