

PRINCIPLES UPDATE: 24 November 2023

Dear all,

I did say this is the term of celebration and it is certainly proving to be the case. What a fantastic Sports Award ceremony last Wednesday. The guest presenter Jay Stevens was inspirational and I think all of us who were present were amazed at his resilience. As an athlete he was involved in a helicopter crash that left him a paraplegic and told he would never walk again. For five years he worked to reach the point where he can walk with crutches. Next week he and his team will attempt to climb Mt. Everest. A simply incredible presentation.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week we held two concerts. The first was a combination of dance, music and drama. The performances were amazing and many will feature at the Year 6 into 7 orientation this coming week on Tuesday 28 as well as at our presentation nights. The Ensemble concert on Tuesday is an indication that music is back 😊

Great news based on the numbers and deposits paid both the music tour to Japan and the language tour also to Japan will be going ahead. Both tours are taking place in October 2024 and a fabulous opportunity for our students.

We are gradually reducing the days with split recess and lunch. This week we had 'no split' Monday and Friday. Next week it will be extended to 'no split' Monday, Tuesday and Friday and the days will increase till week 10 when there will be no splits at all in the week. This will accustom the students to the new paradigm such that we will have no split lessons in 2024.

This coming week apart from the Orientation Day, all Year 11/12 will have their first assessment week. This means that students only come to school for class assessment tasks at all other times they have StuVac. Also in week 8 our Year 8 and 10 basketball players are heading to the Gold Coast to represent us in the Nationals. Good Luck!

Our choir students have been spending long days at the Homebush complex getting ready for Schools Spectacular. Performances are on Friday and Saturday nights as well as matinees. Our own teacher Belinda Smith was selected as a choir conductor for the 2000 strong choir. I am sure they will all have a memorable time.

Did I mention the Year 10 'Life Ready' camp is also taking place next week. All of year 10 will be at camp from Wednesday to Friday completing a mandatory HSC program. Such a perfect time in the year for the camp. A huge thank you to Clint Johnson and the teachers who will be taking Year 10 to camp.

Just a reminder that attendance is very important in the last few weeks of school. Contrary to what some students may say teachers are running classes and in many cases commencing work that will be important for the following year.

Finally, Year 9 and 10 reports will be issued this afternoon so if you have a student in those years expect a report.

Best wishes,
Susan