

PRINCIPLES UPDATE: 26 April 2023

Dear all,

Welcome back to term 2, and I hope you had a wonderful holiday break. For those of you who like me, had a stay-cation, the weather in Sydney was lovely.

The school was busy over the holidays as we migrated to a new Departmental wireless system called eT4L. All computers in the school had to be upgraded and re-imaged. Our students should find it relatively easy with teacher support in period 1 today to link to the new system, however we have a team of IT support in the library all week to help with glitches.

Term 2 is a busy term with the completion of semester 1 learning and assessments and reports, as well as Parent Teacher nights. We will continue with the Parent Teacher nights via phone this year and probably revert in 2024 to the face-to-face meetings in the new school hall. The first PT night for this term commences next Tuesday 2 May for Year 11. Oh and Year 12 receive their reports this afternoon for their semester one.

Year 10 will be having their first formal exam week in week 4 and the associated StuVac. This means they only attend school for a timetabled exam and at other times are able to study from home. This is part of the transition we have put in place for Year 10 to senior studies. Year 10 will receive their exam timetable shortly including Special Provisions for those students who have applied for them with the required paperwork.

Of course, it is not all about exams and assessments. On Monday 1 May we will be holding our athletics carnival. We are going to a new location the ES Marks athletics field in the Eastern Suburbs. It is an excellent athletics field and hopefully it will be a great day. Parents of course are welcome.

Then in week 3, 10 May, Year 7 are off to camp for three days. I know Bernadette Smith the Stage 4 Head Teacher has been putting everything in place for a great camp. Then in week 6 Year 11 also head off for a three-day camp to complete the mandatory Life Ready skills necessary for the HSC. Clint Johnson Head Teacher Sage 6 is coordinating this camp.

A number of wellbeing programs for students are starting the term including the wonderful Raise program for student mentoring. Furthermore, all the ensembles and sporting teams are up and running and of course all the extra-curricular clubs and activities. There is also a music tour to the south coast later this term.

Speaking of music, how fabulous were our school performance band at the ANZAC DAY Dawn Service at Georges Heights. The students looked and sounded terrific. We also had a past P&C president Richard Fechner deliver the main address. While Raghunath Gokhale and Emma Simpson our school captains placed a wreath on behalf of the school.

Finally, a build update. As you can see the scaffolding is gradually being removed, revealing the building and brickwork. We are hoping the scaffolding on Belmont Road will be down by next week. Inside all walls are in place and being painted and lighting is up and running, bathrooms are tiled and technology is being added.

The gate on Military Road is no-longer an access point for this term as the landscaping between the new building and the art block is taking place. So the entries and exits to the school for students are the Gladstone Avenue gates and the Avenue St. gate and for parents the Gladstone Avenue gate.

Well that's probably enough for the first update for the term, just a reminder if you have any concerns we are only an email or phone call away.

Best wishes
Susan