

## Principal's Update – 18 October 2024

Dear all

Welcome back to term 4 and the final term for 2024. Also welcome back to our two groups of overseas travellers who went on separate trips to Japan. Our sixteen Language students who visited our sister school Semboku High School and our thirty-four music students who visited and performed with seven different schools throughout the main island of Japan. From all accounts the students had an amazing experience learning the Japanese language and experiencing the culture and food of Japan. We are hoping to hold a concert after the HSC examinations at school so the rest of the students can see the fabulous works our musicians performed. Thank you of course to Ayako Hirata and Daniel Wood, teachers on the Language excursion, and Michael White and Mitchell Williamson, teachers, and Lyndall Perry, tutor, who did an outstanding job on the music tour.

The P&C wellbeing committee is again presenting for parents 'YSafe'. This will be on Wednesday 23 October at 6.00 pm in the school theatre.

This is a fabulous presentation, that provides parents with all they need to know about social media, their students use of technology, what are the latest issues for young people using technology and more. At the previous presentation all those who were present said that it was one of the best events that they had attended, so if you can make it, just enter via the Belmont gate and walk toward the hall. The theatre is the brown building.

Next week Year 10 have organised Bandana Day. Students can bring in \$7 cash and buy a bandana to help support young people who have cancer. They will be sold in the main plaza on both Wednesday and Thursday. It is such a good cause. Some students won't think to bring \$7 to school, so if you could remind them or even help them with collecting the coins that would be great.

Well the HSC has begun and on Tuesday and Wednesday all students completed English paper 1 and paper 2. The students seemed to be pleased with the papers and it is always good to get through the first couple of exams. Of course this means that Year 11 are now Year 12 and have selected their courses for 2025.

The maths faculty have asked me to let parents of the new Year 12 students know that due to changes in levels particularly advanced to standard we will require some adjustment to classes. At the moment all standard classes are full or have only one space. I am looking at putting an extra teacher and extra standard class into the mix which would reduce the class sizes for term 4 2024 and 2025. These new classes would commence next week.

Just a reminder that if your student is absent for a whole day please send a text to the school explaining the reason why. The deputies will do a courtesy call to you if we don't get that text just to follow up as part of our duty of care.

In the next week or so we will be sending out a High Flyer, which will be filled with wonderful photos from the Japanese tours and the Year 12 graduation and more.

Finally a heads up that the TAS faculty will be holding a 'Design Exhibition' on Friday 1 November from 4.00 pm. You are all welcome to attend and see the incredible work of our technology students and I hear the hospitality class is catering ... so an evening not to be missed!!

Best wishes

Susan