

## Principal's Update – 20 September 2024

Dear all,

It only seems like yesterday that the 'Class of 2024' were in Year 7 with six years of high school ahead of them and yet here we are with their last day of school and graduation on Monday, then in the blink of an eye StuVac will be over and the HSC will have commenced. On Monday there will be many speeches made extolling these wonderful young people and I will be making one of them. They have been an outstanding year group and the Leadership Council has been exemplary in their supporting student voice.

As you know we had the Mosman council elections last Saturday and Ann King chair of the art committee asked me to share this with you:

“A HUGE thank you to all the parents that contributed their baking skills to the Bake Sale last weekend. We raised \$888 which is not bad for \$3 cupcakes and goodies and \$15 cakes, we had such a huge array of items to sell the stall was always busy with people coming by. The SRC are selling the left over lolly bags this week so there will be more funds in the kitty for our kids. Such a fantastic effort and we are so grateful THANKYOU” Art Committee.

Today we have invited the presenters from Y safe. They will be speaking to Years 7, 8, and 9 on issues involving Cybersafety and appropriate use of the Internet and social media. Then next week on Tuesday we will have the Police Youth Liaison Officer presenting to Years 9 and 10.

Week 10 is obviously a very busy week. Starting with Monday and the Year 12 assembly, picnic and then formal graduation in our new hall. I always look forward to the morning assembly where students in Years 7 to 11 represent their year group and present a speech of farewell to Year 12. Often siblings in younger years deliver the speech and they are always heartfelt.

Then on Tuesday apart from the PYLO presentation, we will be holding the final concert commencing at 6.30 pm before our music students fly out to Japan. All parents and friends are welcome to attend again in the school hall. Of course on Wednesday to Friday, Year 8 are on camp. What a wonderful way to finish the term. Not only are thirty four music students flying out to Japan but so too are sixteen Japanese Language students. These students will be leaving on the first Saturday of the holidays and part of their experience will be billeting with students from our sister school Semboku.

We wish both touring groups a wonderful experience. Of course once we all get back to school, within a day the HSC starts for Year 12.

Yesterday we rolled out the parent portal to all parents. At this stage it has only been sent to the enrolling parent. The code apparently has a small glitch. At the end of the code is square brackets [..], when you log on do not include the square brackets or what is in the brackets. This is a fault that we did not know was being added to a parent's personal code.

Another update you may have heard about is that students throughout NSW will have their email accounts (@education) blocked for accessing any social media or websites deemed inappropriate by the Department. This will commence from day one term 4. The link to

further information is: <https://education.nsw.gov.au/technology/how-to-guides/self-help/web-filtering/restricted-social-networking-platforms-for-students>

Also a 'heads up' the department is looking to provide broadband for families struggling to afford this. The free Internet broadband will take place throughout 2025. When I receive more information I will send it out but families will need to complete a short survey to access this opportunity.

I am also investigating any methods that parents can use to block gaming sites on their student's device. When I have more information I will forward in my next update.

Finally this will be my last update for term 3. I hope we all have a smooth week 10 and I wish you a wonderful holiday if you are able to have one with your children.

Best wishes till term 4.

Susan