

## Principal's Update – 24 May 2024

Dear all

Such beautiful weather today and our students are taking advantage of the landscaped spaces and sunshine in the playground.

It has been a busy week for Year 10 who are in the final throws of completing their Half Yearly exam week. Having spoken to a number of the students, they are enjoying the idea of StuVac and many have said that it is helping them understand what will be required as senior students in Years 11 and 12. In fact, it is only a week and a half (6 June) and we will be holding the first Information Evening for Year 10 commencing the subject selection process for Year 11 and 12.

This week was a busy week for parents with many of you attending the art committee, music committee and P&C meetings. Thank you to all the parents who are involved in our school whether it is through these committees supporting sporting teams, music ensembles or in other ways. Our school is enriched by your involvement.

Reporting time is gearing up and teachers are setting and marking assessments and writing semester 1 reports ... with Years 7 and 8 reports being issued on 21 June and Years 9 and 10 reports issued the following week 28 June. As you know all students have written Learning Goals on the front page of their report and I am sure you will be interested to see what their goal might be.

There seems to be a slight resurgence of early winter colds and flu happening in the community. If your child is unwell please keep them home to reduce the chance of spreading infection.

Last Wednesday evening Year 12 drama performed in the Dodwell Theatre. This was an early opportunity to showcase their HSC drama monologues and group devised pieces. The standard is already very high. Then yesterday Mr Willems hospitality class treated students and staff to some wonderful lunches. Every lunch cost \$5 and all the money raised (which was over \$1000) went towards supporting cancer research.

Tim Johnson who is a local artist and great supporter of World Ocean Day has invited 50 of our students to attend World Ocean Day celebrations at Luna Park on 5 June. We are looking to members of the SRC and our Environment group attending this prestigious event.

A new initiative we are trialling with some Year 7 classes is reverting to notebooks for core subjects. The school has purchased the books and students will do their work in these books which will be kept by the teachers. We have noticed that many of our students are requiring support with organisational skills and aspects of literacy and this pilot if successful may be extended. Of course that Year 7 students are challenged in this way is not surprising as this year group in 2020 and 2021 experienced the COVID lockdowns in their formative Year 2 and 3 years. If your child is in Year 7 please encourage them to pack a pen and ruler :)

Hayley our Student Support Officer has made me aware of an opportunity to support parents who are experiencing challenging times. If you know of someone who is having a tough time you may want to pass on this URL:

<https://www.empoweringparentsincrisis.com/>

Finally, we will again be holding the popular Grandparents Morning for Year 7 grandparents (and mums and dads) on Monday 3 June in our lovely school hall. It is always a fun morning that concludes with morning tea. We look forward to showcasing the incredible talent of our Year 7 students.

Have a lovely weekend

Susan